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The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

Han'06 challenges student voting policy

New Oneida County policy allows Hamilton students to register locally

by Kathleen McGrory '05
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When the Oneida County Board of Elections denied Young Han '06 the ability to vote in Oneida County, Han wouldn't take "no" for an answer.

Han, whose parents reside in Washington State, thought that all Hamilton College students should have the ability to be active in both Clinton and Oneida County politics.

"We deal with the consequences of Oneida County's decisions when we drive on its roads, ingest its water, breathe its air or purchase consumer goods locally," Han said. "We should have a say about what happens in the community which most affects our day-to-day lives."

But when the then-sophomore attempted to register to vote in Oneida County - three times during the last school year - the Oneida County Board of Elections told him to solicit an absentee ballot and register back home.

"It has been our policy in the past that we advise college students to vote in their home counties," said Patti Ann DiSpirito, Republican Commissioner at the Oneida County Board of Elections. "We felt for many years

*see **Voting Policy**, page 4*

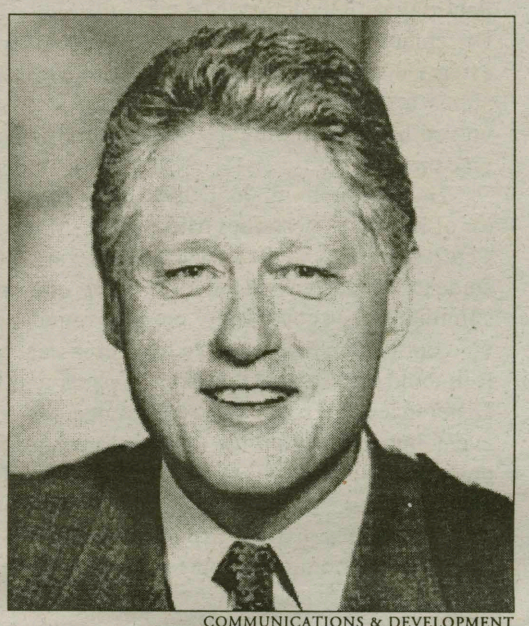
Former President Clinton to deliver Great Names speech

from Staff Reports

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton, 42nd president of the United States, will visit Hamilton College as a Sacerdote Great Names Series speaker, College officials announced Friday. The lecture, which will be free and open to the public, will take place on Tuesday evening, November 9 in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House.

Clinton was first elected president of the United States in 1992 and reelected to the post in 1996. His reelection marked the first time in six decades that a Democratic president was awarded a second term.

A graduate of Georgetown University, Clinton won a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University in 1968 before receiving a law degree from Yale University in 1973. Clinton entered politics Arkansas the following year, losing his first election for Congress in Arkansas' Third District in 1974. Clinton was elected Arkansas Attorney General in 1976. Just two years later her won the governorship in the same state. Although Clinton was not reelected to governor, in 1992 he defeated incumbent George Bush and third party candidate Ross Perot to become president of the United States.



COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT

The 42nd President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton.

Following his tenure as president, Clinton founded the William Jefferson Clinton Foundation. The Foundation focuses on the economic empowerment of poor people both in the U.S. and around the world; racial, ethnic and religious reconciliation; combating HIV/AIDS; and leadership development and citizen service. Clinton also currently serves as Advisory Board co-chair with President Nelson Mandela and Prime Minister Tony Blair of the International AIDS Trust.

The former president is married to Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-New York, who graduated from Wellesley College and Yale Law School. The two have one child Chelsea who was born in 1980.

Hamilton's Sacerdote Great Names Series is named in recognition of a gift of Alex Sacerdote '94. Clinton will be the fourth head of state to deliver a Great Names lecture; other Great Names speakers have included Madeleine Albright, Jimmy Carter, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Lady Margaret Thatcher, Colin Powell, Elie Wiesel and F.W. de Klerk.

Psi U opens doors to students

by Dan Bleeker '06
PRODUCTION EDITOR

After nearly a year of construction and many more on the drawing board, the Psi Upsilon House officially opened to students this week. Hamilton's newest dormitory, Psi U houses fifty-two students in a combination of singles and doubles, as well as Hamilton's newest area coordinator, Gemma Cowling.

A bevy of special features set Psi U apart from other residence halls on the Hill. Primary amongst these are Psi U's private bathrooms, located in each single or double. "I love the bathrooms," exclaimed Jessica Blackwell '05, a happy Psi U resident. "It's a great thing to be able to roll out of your bed at anytime of the day and go right there, without having to worry about carrying all your stuff, or more importantly, how you look."

Psi U also boasts a host of other luxury amenities such as air-conditioning, new furniture and a wheel-chair accessible elevator. According to Executive Director of Communications Michael Debraggio, many of these facilities were intended not only for student use, but for the comfort of college guests who will stay in Psi U for conferences and workshops over the summer. Students have noticed. "It's like a hotel in here," said Blackwell. "You walk in and everything is so nice. I know that most of the things are meant for the guests over the summer, but it's nice that they trust the students enough to let us enjoy them too."

Also unique to Psi U is its environmentally friendly heating and cooling system, a first on the Hill. "The building is heated and cooled using a closed loop water source heat pump which has a geothermal heat sink," explained Associ-

*see **Psi U**, page 2*

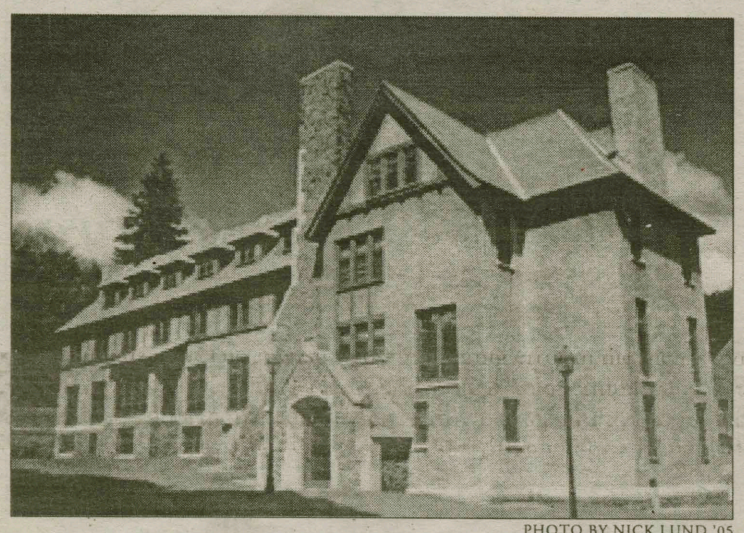


PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Extensive Psi U building renovations made over the summer improved the dorm's living space.

483 freshmen begin their year with orientation week

by Josh Cheung '08
NEWS WRITER

According to the College Registrar's Office, 483 entering freshmen were on-hand for the official welcome of the class of 2008 on Tuesday, August 24.

For these first year students, the year was kicked off with New Student Orientation week (NSO). Activities included the annual Opening Ceremonies, an academic fair, a sexual assault workshop, a performance by mentalist Dr. Al Snyder, an act by comedian Scotty K, and various dance parties and movie nights.

For the most part, students enjoyed the events and it accomplished its goal of, according to Director of Student Activities Lisa Magnarelli '96, getting "first-year students acclimated [to the college]... that they learn their way around, make connections with other people, get set-up for classes, and gain some very important information."

Jesse Hatgis '08 of Long Island, N.Y. was among the hundreds of students who took part in the orientation activities.

"It was definitely helpful," he said. "I mean if I just came to campus on the first day of classes and didn't know anybody and where to go, I think my mind would shut down on me."

To the dismay of some students, the beginning of NSO also marked the start of "dry week."

According to Magnarelli, the "PlayFair," an interactive gathering of all the new students, was among the few changes made this year to the NSO.

Sarah Maas '08 of New York City thought the activity was "chaotic."

"Some parts of [the PlayFair] were pretty dumb, some parts were pretty pointless, like saying 'hi' to everyone because you don't remember their name like two seconds later," she said. "But the activity where we had to sit down with three people for a while, that was good. It should have been like that all night."

As for other changes to this year's orientation activities, "this was the first year we invited a student to write, direct and pro-

*see **Orientation**, page 4*

Make a Difference Day activities to be held this Saturday

by Kristy Hague '05
News Writer

HAVOC (Hamilton Action Volunteer Outreach Coalition) will kick off the school year this Saturday with its annual Make a Difference Day. This tradition offers students, faculty, staff and alums a chance to become involved in local community service programs.

Haley Reimbold '06, Director of HAVOC, describes Make a Difference Day as "a day where students see the need in the local community, see community service options and get involved." Reimbold stresses that "[Make a Difference Day] is not a one day event but the beginning of an ongoing sustained effort in the surrounding community." HAVOC hopes that the experience will encourage students to become actively involved in one of HAVOC's many community service programs.

Participants will have many community service options to choose from. Some of the larger projects include Habitat for Humanity, transforming an old home into a community center for the JCTOD Youth Center, fundraising for the Youth Empowerment Project, and painting a building for the United Cerebral Palsy Center. Sculpture Space, affordable residences for local artists, needs help with painting and landscaping while the Family Nurturing Center needs volunteers to clean and paint their building. The Children's Museum will have volunteers help set up a Matchbox Car exhibit and Compassion Kids needs about 50 volunteers to run a children's fair in Rome. This year, participants in Saturday's activities will have the option of staying on campus. Students from Utica after school programs will be brought to campus and volunteers will play games, make crafts, and show these students the Hamilton campus.

Make a Difference Day begins at 7:30am with registration for one of the day's service projects. After an 11:00am breakfast in the Annex, participants will be bused to their service site where they will spend four hours working on their respective projects. At 4:30pm, everyone will reconvene on the Bristol Terrace for dinner and reflections on the day's events. The reflections offer participants a chance to both share their experiences and hear what other community service projects entailed. After the dinner, students can sign up to become further involved in these programs for the rest of the year.

Originally a national event taking place on the second weekend in October, HAVOC adopted Make a Difference Day to bring attention to the community service programs offered at Hamilton. Last year, HAVOC moved the date to the first weekend of the school year to jumpstart the community service programs and involve more students.

*see **HAVOC**, page 4*

New students participate in AA and Urban Service Experience

by Emily Pallin '08
News Writer

Nearly half of the class of 2008 explored the Adirondacks and volunteered in downtown Utica in pre-orientation programs. Prior to the start of freshmen orientation, students were given the opportunity to partake in explorations that are unique to Hamilton: an Adirondack Adventure or an Urban Service Experience. The goal of these programs was to allow students to interact with each other in a nonacademic atmosphere. While making new friends, students were also able to learn about some of the many opportunities the college has to offer and the resources surrounding the school.

The Adirondack Adventure trips, a tradition of twenty years here at Hamilton, allowed students to come to appreciate the breathtaking scenery of upstate New York. For one week students set up camp and learned how to live off the land. Imagine living for a week without amenities (showers, toilets, running water, etc.) with a group of people you had never met before! The teammates were certainly challenged to get to know one another in a very personal way that went well beyond first impressions. Twenty-five groups of about a dozen students each hiked to different campsites; each trip had a slightly different focus.

One group discovered how to make ceramic products using materials straight from the earth, another group of future geologists went mineral and fossil collecting, and other groups focused on mastering canoeing, hiking and climbing skills.

Katie Donahue '08 participated in the Santanoni Community Service trip, and shared her experiences of the trip, "It was a great way to start off my college career; I got to figure out my way around campus, travel the Adirondacks, and get to know a bunch of great people!"

Director of AA and Hamilton College's outdoor programs Andrew Jillings shared Donahue's opinion. He stated that "AA is an important part of the Hamilton tradition because it helps to develop a sense of identity and positive feeling among the incoming class. Students get to make connections with peers and older students, which provides a good jumping off point for the year. It's also damned good fun."

While on the Urban Service Experience (USE), fourteen students learned the value of giving one's own resources for the betterment of a community in need. Traveling to a church just fifteen minutes from campus, students felt far removed from the pristine college campus. Utica, a city that flourished in the 19th century, is now home to a population with 24.5% living below the poverty line.

PHOTO BY SARAH SCHNEIDER '05

Students participate in Hamilton's AA program.

One striking element of this city is the number of charitable organizations that have been formed to combat problems such as hunger and homelessness. The USE group was able to support this city's efforts to provide a better life for the less fortunate. Students volunteered at a refugee center, a food distribution center, a nursing home, and a children's center, among other locations. Students were also exposed to the diversity in culture and ethnic foods that shape Utica; over one fifth of those living in Utica are minorities, many of whom are refugees form across the globe.

The director of the USE trip and Hamilton college chaplain, Jeff McArn, stated that "the great thing about USE is it not only is a chance for a group of new students to bond together, but it opens the door to the wider neighborhood of your college setting. Before students get settled into the Hamilton "bubble" they have a chance to see what's going on in Utica — ways to help out and ways to have fun. Once you've been to a place, it makes it less intimidating to go back and bring some friends to check it out with you. And being introduced to volunteering in Utica as the first thing you do as a Hamilton student, you have a lot of years to make use of your knowledge of the city."

The program began on August 16th and concluded on August 23rd when the various expedition groups met at Adirondack centers to test their growth as a team. Each student was challenged to participate in high ropes exercises that included jumping off a telephone pole to catch a trapeze and walking a thin tightrope suspended fifty feet in the air. Motivated by the support and encouragement of new friends, students were able to put fears aside and enjoy this last week of summer together, kicking off what is sure to be an exciting first year of college.

Psi U renovations made over summer

*from **Psi U**, page 1*

ate Vice President for Facilities and Planning Steven Bellona. "The front yard has 16 wells that are 405 feet deep. The closed loop extracts heat from the ground during the heating season, and rejects heat into the ground during the cooling season. In doing so, we can save energy and reduce annual CO_2 emissions by 160,000 lbs."

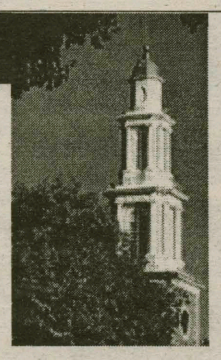
The college is also buying 100% green energy for the building for its first two years of operation in an effort to qualify the dormitory for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Certification. If the LEED Council approves Psi U, it will be Hamilton's first environmentally recognized edifice.

When Psi U is dedicated on October 8th, it will take on its official name of Skenandoa House. "That name was proposed by the alumni of Psi U," said Debraggio. "It is a tribute to Chief Skenandoa, who was a close friend of missionary and Hamilton founder Samuel Kirkland. At Skenandoa's request, the two are buried side-by-side in the College Cemetery."

While Psi U alumni might have approved the dormitory's name, not all of the fraternity's current members are happy with the change. "By changing the name of the house, you take away from the history of Psi U and what it stands for at Hamilton," said Andrew DeCastro '05, the current president of Psi U. "The dorm used to be something that alumni could come back to and remember, but now everything's changed."

Interested in a career in journalism? Start learning the skills neccessary to be a future news writer and contact News Editors Greta Rosenberger and Emma Furman at grosenbe and efurman.

IVORY TOWERS



THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Colleges offering Casino 101

ALBANY, New York (AP) — Marvin Phillips is spending a lot of time this summer at the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino, taking in some poker, roulette and live music. Not for pleasure — for college credit.

The 21-year-old from the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation will enter his senior year at Morrisville State College in September as part of a growing movement: College educated blackjack dealers, casino security experts, restaurant and entertainment operators and gaming managers.

As states — mostly through Indian tribes — turn to casinos for gambling revenues, public colleges nationwide are increasingly offering courses and majors on casinos and gambling.

Phillips, a member of the Mohawk tribe, started as an information technology major but decided after a year to take gaming courses. He'll graduate with degrees in both.

"I did this for the most part because of the unique nature of the gaming industry and because there was a casino in my hometown," he said. "This provides for a challenging work environment that appeals to me."

Over the past five years, gaming courses and majors have cropped up at colleges including San Diego State University, Michigan State University, Tulane University's University College in New Orleans, and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. They join the pioneering University of Nevada at Las Vegas and Reno, according to The Chronicle of Higher Education.

In New York's Catskill Mountains, Sullivan County Community College added a casino concentration in its club management degree. There are several proposed Indian casinos in the former Borscht Belt of upstate New York, though none has gotten final regulatory approval.

Parties Troll Campuses for Voters

NEW YORK (AP) — College campuses are stirring back to life, and Eric Hoplin's vote machine is ready to spring into action.

Hoplin, chairman of the College Republican National Committee, has 120,000 members, 60 field staffers and a multimillion-dollar budget directed at turning out 125,000 or more young voters for President Bush in battleground states.

"It's go time," Hoplin said Monday. "We are turning the machine on, and we'll have the volunteers and votes to re-elect the president."

The group is combining old-fashioned registration drives with aggressive Election Day follow-up to ensure this traditionally low-turnout segment of the population does more than just sign up to vote. It hopes to build on a 2000 surge that significantly narrowed a once-commanding lead by Democrats among the under-30 crowd.

"We know who registered to vote. We're going to visit them on Election Day and we'll give them a ride to the polls," said Hoplin, a 26-year-old graduate of St. Olaf College in Minnesota. "We're going to call them. We're going to harass them."

The under-30 bloc is estimated at 48 million, but only about 18 million voted in 2000. Exit polls showed 48 percent of those under 30 voted Democratic and 46 percent voted Republican. In 1996, Democrats enjoyed a 19-point spread among this group. Democrats are also working hard for the youth vote.

Grant Woodard, a junior at Grinnell College in Iowa and head of the College Democrats of America, said his group is registering voters but also recruiting thousands of young Democrats from safe states and dispatching them to swing states to work for John Kerry.

"In an election this close, the president can't afford to lose any demographic," Woodard said. "Students are going to be a huge voice in this campaign."

The College Republican National Committee has been a training ground for party leaders since the mid-1970s, when White House strategist Karl Rove had Hoplin's job.

WORLD NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Militants Release 26 Hostages in Russia

BESLAN, Russia (AP) — Camouflage-clad soldiers carried crying babies away from a school where gunmen holding hundreds of hostages freed at least 26 women and children Thursday during a second day of high drama that kept crowds of distraught relatives on edge.

Men and women wept with disappointment or beamed and hugged each other with relief as a mustached man read the names and ages of the freed hostages over a loudspeaker. Some toddlers among those released were naked, apparently because of the stifling heat in the school, where the hostage-takers refused to allow authorities to deliver water, food and medicine for the captives.

Tensions rose when the militants fired grenades at two cars near the besieged compound. Hours later, a blast that sounded like a grenade fired from a launcher went off during a live report from the scene on Russia's NTV television. There was little reaction from bystanders to the sound, which came after a day of intermittent fire.

President Vladimir Putin said everything possible would be done to end the "horrible" crisis and save the lives of the children and adults being held at School No. 1 in Beslan, a town in the southern region of North Ossetia.

But despite the release of a few hostages, government officials said the demands of the militants were not clearly defined, making it difficult for negotiators.

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Bin Laden's Operatives Still Use Dubai

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Osama bin Laden's operatives still use this freewheeling city as a logistical hub three years after more than half the Sept. 11 hijackers flew directly from Dubai to the United States in the final preparatory stages for the attack.

The recent arrest of an alleged top al-Qaida combat coach is the latest sign that suspected members of the terrorist organization are among those who take advantage of travel rules that allow easy entry. Citizens of neighboring Gulf states such as Saudi Arabia can come to Dubai without visas, which other nationalities can get at the country's ports of entry.

Once here, it's easy to blend in to what has become a cosmopolitan crowd.

The Emirates is home to an estimated 4 million people, and nearly 75 percent of them are foreigners. In Dubai, expatriates of all nationalities are catered to, from concerts by top Western musicians to cricket and rugby matches to a German-styled Oktoberfest.

The expatriates, mostly from the Indian subcontinent and the Arab world, are employed in the real estate, insurance, tourism and banking sectors. Westerners, numbering in the tens of thousands, are employed as military advisers and oil specialists.

While the Emirates has taken concrete steps to fight terrorism since Sept. 11, 2001 - including making high-profile arrests, passing an anti-money laundering law, and imposing close monitoring procedures on charity organizations - the characteristics that make it an ideal place for legitimate business also attract militants and others with suspect motives.

NATIONAL NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

2.5 Million Warned to Flee Fla. Hurricane

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. (AP) — Residents and tourists in cars, trucks and campers clogged highways Thursday in the biggest evacuation ever ordered in Florida, fleeing inland as mighty Hurricane Frances threatened the state with its second battering in three weeks.

AP

About 2.5 million residents were told to clear out ahead of what could be the most powerful storm to hit Florida in a decade. Other people in the 300-mile stretch covered by the hurricane warning rushed to fortify their homes with plywood and storm shutters, and buy water, gas and canned food.

Already a Category 4 storm with 140 mph winds and the potential to push ashore waves up to 15 feet high, Frances could make itself felt in the state by midmorning Friday.

Judge Orders Release of N.Y. Protesters

NEW YORK (AP) — A judge ordered the immediate release of nearly 500 protesters Thursday, just hours before President Bush was to speak at the Republican National Convention.

State Supreme Court Justice John Cataldo ordered 470 protesters freed, including some who had been awaiting arraignment for almost three days.

"These people have already been the victims of a process," the judge told the city's top lawyer. "I can no longer accept your statement that you are trying to comply."

The city had blamed the sheer volume of detainees for the backlog in getting them released. More than 1,700 protesters have been arrested during the convention and the preceding few days - nearly 1,200 of them on Tuesday during a long-planned day of mass civil disobedience.

The judge's order came less than six hours before Bush was to accept his party's nomination for a second term in a speech at Madison Square Garden.

Bush to Vow Victory Over Terrorism

NEW YORK (AP) — President Bush, a wartime leader in a tight race, vowed victory over terrorism and a brighter future for Americans buffeted by a changing economy Thursday night in a Republican National Convention acceptance speech that launched his fall reelection campaign.

"We are staying on the offensive - striking terrorists abroad - so we do not have to face them here at home," Bush said in remarks prepared for a prime-time address in a convention hall close by Ground Zero of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. "And we will prevail."

To millions anxious over their economic security, the president said, "government must take your side" by offering a path to greater opportunity. In a return to the rhetoric of compassionate conservatism that marked his 2000 election campaign, the Republican pledged to transform the tax code, health coverage, pension system and more "so that all citizens are equipped, prepared - and thus truly free - to make your own choices and pursue your own dreams."

The public opinion polls made the race a toss-up as Bush stepped to a custom-made, theater-in-the-round style podium at Madison Square Garden, the country divided along political lines that shaped the Electoral College strategy of the president and Democratic Sen. John Kerry alike.

By all accounts, Bush is safely ahead in customary GOP strongholds across the South and Great Plains states, with Kerry similarly situated in Democratic base states from New York to Illinois to California.

That left about 20 states to contest, across nine weeks of personal campaigning, presidential and vice presidential debates and more than $100 million in campaign advertising - the White House the prize.

Hypnotist, comedian highlight orientation

*from **Orientation**, page 1*

duce the [sexual assault] program," Magnarelli said. "I think it was an incredible production, and I'm looking forward to working with Amanda Besinger '06 again. She did an incredible job."

"[The sexual assault program] kind of opened people's minds up," said Keya Advani '08, an international student from New Delhi, India. "It's a topic that's not talked about a lot, especially not talked about in India at all."

Advani felt another workshop, one entitled "Toto, We're Not in Kansas Anymore!" and presented by Dr. Maura Cullen , was "brilliant."

Cullen's workshop was geared toward accepting diversity on all levels.

Maas agreed with Advani, and said, "I thought the speaker for 'Toto, We're Not in Kansas Anymore!' was fantastic. That was the highlight of the entire week."

According to Magnarelli, this year's orientation activities were chaired by three orientation coordinators (OCs) who "coordinate [orientation leader] training and the execution of New Student Orientation" and 44 orientation leaders (OLs) who "facilitate community building within groups, and act as a primary resource to first-year students during the orientation program."

Nii Ato Bentsi-Enchill '05, an international student from Ghana, was one of the 44 OLs.

"Being an OL ran the gambit from moments of extreme stress and annoyance, to moments of sheer fun," said Bentsi-Enchill. "When speaking of stress, I refer mostly to the first day of orientation during which I carried about 1,000 pounds worth of stuff that didn't belong to me... There was also a fairly constant level of fatigue that is produced by having to be 'On' all day: [being] ready for anything and everything, having a super positive attitude, and just having to make myself readily accessible at all times. Despite these initial hurdles, on the whole, being an OL was just a blast. There is nothing like meeting a ton of new people who have loads of interesting personalities and stories to offer... I attended a number of very interesting talks, and I finally got to see the mentalist for the first time."

All in all, Magnarelli is ready to improve next year's orientation week. "As we receive feedback, we'll evaluate the program," she said. "All first-years will be receiving an on-line survey Thursday and should definitely take the time to respond. Your feedback is important and will determine what we keep, improve and get rid of."

The survey is available at http://my.hamilton.edu/college/its/survey/index.html?id=207. Respondents will be asked for their username and password in order to begin.

Magnarelli later added, "I think if first-years attend their NSO sessions and allow themselves to really participate and not just go through the motions, then yes, I think it will accomplish [its] goals."

"It was definitely a good experience," Jesse Hatgis '08 said. "If you don't have a good beginning, I guess it is really hard to catch up."

Students nationwide seek to vote in college towns

*from **Voting Policy**, Page 1*

that our policy was the best way to meet students needs."

DiSpirito noted that there have been a number of exceptions to the Board's policy. College students who have no other United States addresses, such as those whose parents are living abroad, are encouraged by the Board to register in Oneida County.

"What we do is evaluate each situation on a case-by-case basis, and then determine what would be the easiest for the student," DiSpirito added.

In Han's case, the Board determined that the best way for him to vote would be in his home state of Washington.

Han felt that he had been disenfranchised. In an attempt to learn his rights, Han placed phone calls to various civil rights and voters rights organizations, including MTV's Rock the Vote, an organization dedicated to enfranchising youth.

What he did learn was that in New York State, individual counties can determine the policy for student voters.

According to Pat Murray of the New York State Board of Elections, the Board has the authority to determine if a person is voting where he actually resides, and then allow or prohibit that person from voting in the area.

"According to New York State Election Law, you can not gain a residence by being a college student," said Murray. "In other words, being a college student does not automatically make a college dorm your official residence."

Legal precedents, though, do allow college students to register to vote in New York State, Murry said. She estimated that nearly half of all registered college students across the state vote in their college towns.

As for Han, Oneida County continued to block him from voting here. But six months after Han first attempted to register in Oneida County, MTV's Rock the Vote referred a reporter from *Rolling Stone* magazine to Han's case, which lead to a story featuring Han about the disenfranchisement of college students across the nation.

After the story ran in May, three New York Civil Liberties Groups - the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University Law, the New York Civil Liberties Union and the New York Public Interest Research Group - also began urging Oneida County to change its policy regarding student registration.

These actions prompted the county to reevaluate their longstanding procedures this summer.

"Although in the past it may have been best to urge college students to vote at home, that may no longer be the case," said DiSpirito. "With such an exciting election year, college students seem to be getting more and more active in politics. That being the case, we will now register students from wherever they prefer to be registered."

Just like any other citizen, though, students will only be able to vote in one election, be it here or in their home county, noted County Attorney Randy Caldwell.

"This is an issue that has been questioned for years," Caldwell said. "In my opinion, it is an issue that really needs to be addressed by the State legislature, and put into Election Law."

While he feels that he has had a victory in Oneida County, Han will continue to fight for student's voting rights throughout the election season as part of the grass-roots Student Voting Rights Campaign. Han and a number of other students formed the organization this past summer in Washington, DC.

According to Han, his actions are indicative of a larger national trend. "Student voter suppression is frequently deliberate, systematic and widespread," he said, noting that cases similar to his have occurred at Skidmore, Dartmouth, William & Mary, Florida A&M, Texas A&M, and the University of Arizona.

Locally, Kirkland Town Supervisor Republican Annette Foley said that the issue of college students voting in Oneida County is not one that the community has addressed.

"I don't think that residents have widespread feelings one way or another," Foley said. "As far as most people are concerned, we've now just got to work together to keep the community as great as it is."

James S. Sherman Associate Professor of Government Philip Klinkner believes that allowing students to vote could prove beneficial for Oneida County.

"Oneida County has been losing population for a long time," he said. "It seems to me that local politicians should want to encourage young people to work here and to put down roots here. Allowing students to vote locally is certainly one way of making them feel more connected to the area."

High hopes for Make a Difference Day

*from **HAVOC**, page 2*

The idea worked, as over 250 students participated last year. This year, HAVOC hopes that over 300 students will take part in Saturday's program.

In having this annual event, HAVOC hopes to not only increase student involvement in the community but also increase student interest in the surrounding area and have students connect what they've learned in the classroom here to the patterns and events they observe in the local community. "People need to get a different sense of Utica," Reimbold points out, "they need to see the hope and possibility that exists there instead of belittling it."

Reverend Jeff McArn, the faculty advisor to HAVOC, points out that in addition to helping the community surrounding Hamilton, Make a Difference Day improves Hamilton's own campus community. "[Make a Difference Day] brings groups together to service the local community while creating a bond among these groups of volunteers," said McArn.

In past years, student response to the day has been overwhelmingly positive. "Make a Difference Day is a great way to get involved on campus and to learn more about all the service opportunities available to students," said past participant Dan Bleeker '06. Other past participants hope the program is equally successful this year.

Play it Safe
"It's all fun and games until someone loses an eye..."
That's what your parents told you when you were a kid. Shouldn't you tell your children?
Each year thousands of children suffer unnecessary sports-related eye injuries — bruised eyes, scraped or torn corneas, detached retinas and eye hemorrhaging.
Vision Council of America, a nonprofit trade association representing the optical industry, wants parents to know that wearing protective eyewear can prevent or lessen the severity of most eye injuries.
Talk to your eyecare professional about protecting your child's eyes. Safety standards do exist for many sports and your eyecare professional will be able to help you find the eyewear appropriate for your child's activities.
For more information, talk to your eyecare professional or visit the consumer area of VCA's Web site, www.visionsite.org.
PROTECT YOUR CHILD'S EYESIGHT
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Editorial
The Spectator

The Spectator

Earlier this week Hamilton students earned the ability to vote in Oneida County if we choose to register here. The decision by the Oneida County Board of Elections came after the commendable efforts of Young Han '06 to assure that Hamilton students will not be disenfranchised in the place where we spend the bulk (if not all) of our year.

We at the *Spectator* followed this story before, during, and after the decision, (as well as the MTV and Rolling Stone attention), and we've carefully considered the question of a college student's right to vote in their academic town. We've debated what responsibilities come with that right. We realized that more is at stake than simply being able to go to the polls in Clinton and cast a vote in the presidential election in November.

If we so choose, we have earned the ability not only to pull the lever for Bush or Kerry (but not Nader), but also to vote in local and state elections as well. In a way, this makes sense: for those of us who live locally or stay here summer after summer, Clinton is our home and it makes far more sense for us to care about its welfare than some distant former home across the country or the world. But there is a caveat to this new privilege: NOT voting is sometimes the right choice. We are bombarded with slogans telling us to vote for everything we can: Rock the Vote (MTV), Vote or Die (P. Diddy), and more. All of these movements' goals are the same: to get young people to take the right to vote seriously, and to make an *informed* choice for who leads their country and cities.

Note the emphasis on *informed*. Casting the errant uninformed vote for president is unlikely to have much impact (unless you live in Dade County), but in a town as small as Clinton a few votes can decide an entire mayoral or city board election. Hamilton students, then, will now have the power to potentially determine the way Clinton is run. Yet how many of us have any clue what the important issues are in town? How many of us have children in the school system or relatives with town businesses? Voting on a whim or on nothing more than heresay could have terrible results for the town. Although we have the right, it does not mean we should exercise it. We urge everyone to take this new ability to register to vote in Clinton seriously and maturely. If one does choose to register here and cast local election ballots, do so from the perspective of an active member of the town, rather than a distant observer from College Hill.

The Spectator

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Insights and Ideas

I know what you did last summer...

The Spectator asks students "What is the craziest thing you did last summer?

"...Two sailors in the engine room of a cruise ship."
-Allison Harding '05

"...I went and got a second hole... pretty ludacris to my parents."
-Joshua Bruff '05

"...I stole a bunny from a farm on the fourth of July."
-Anne Bickerton '08

"...I was naked with fifteen other naked people in a hot tub."
-Whit Rothe '05

"...Running barefoot through the woods with no flashlight at night from these guys with guns."
Amanda Pooler'08

"...Picking up guys on the Eiffel Tower."
-Deanne Katz '08

"...I went whaling off the coast of Iceland with a harpoon I made from a sharpened toothbrush."
Tom Morris '07

New year, same old hill

by Britten Chase '05
I&I Editor

Welcome back everyone!

And to the freshmen... um... welcome back for the first time!

I know what you freshmen are thinking. You are thinking to yourself, "Self, I can't believe I got waitlisted at all my top choices and somehow ended up in middle-of-nowhere central New York." But fear not. Why? If you did not realize it during your college search, you will grow to understand that all colleges are pretty much the same. In fact you put all that blood, sweat, and anxiety into your college search and its actually one big prank. Haha.

Don't worry, Hamilton is really just as good a place as any. Except for maybe Bucknell. It's this big time university in middle-of-nowhere central Pennsylvania. I remember getting there and thinking "Wow, 3000 kids. This is massive." I mention Bucknell only because as part of my journey (think: The Odyssey) back to school I stayed there for a few days with my young sister. And they had air conditioning.

Not that I mind sweating through my sheets every night. Everyone knows hydration is overrated. All I'm saying is that it might be nice to step in the gym and not have it be such a "tropical" experience. Although I suppose that if you are thinking of studying abroad in... well... Hell ... it's not a bad idea to hop on over to the fitness center at around four o'clock on a weekday. Just to make sure you like it before you go.

But hey, I'm not a whiner. Life is very good on the hill. Sleep till whenever, make your presence known in class (but only if they take attendance), go play some Frisbee, eat ice cream to your heart's content, party till late, rest, repeat. College is wonderful because it is a time in your life when you are completely in charge of yourself yet at the same time you have about zero responsibility. Unless you fail out, which I imagine is rather hard to do unless you are trying. Which you may be. How do I know?

We're getting national recognition for how Ham-Tech is improving. We're up in the US News and World Report rankings. We're now tied with Colby as the 286th worst (ok, if you really want to get technical, 19th best) liberal arts college in the United States. Way to go team! I know we all did our part, but hats off to our fearless leader President Tobin.

Or whoever.

It's great that we are ranked so highly. As a member of the senior class, I know that as I begin to maybe start thinking about putting some time into considering my after school plans sometime eventually, businesses really respect those elite liberal arts colleges. On my journey back to school I stopped at a Perkins in Iowa (worst state ever in the history of the universe (the greatest universe ever (satisfaction guaranteed))) for breakfast. I got into a conversation with my waiter. Turned out he was a recent graduate of Grinnell College. I remember walking out of the Perkins really happy that I knew Hamilton was such a prestigious and respected college, and surely I wouldn't end up at Perkins as well.

Then I looked at the college rankings and of course Grinnell is ranked ahead of us.

Foiled again.

So maybe Perkins was a reach. But I have a dream, and just like any other soon-to-be graduate of Hamilton, I know there must be a Denny's or an IHOP out there that is just waiting for someone with my skills (none) and background (shady).

Hey, it's too early to be thinking about life after the hill (what life after the hill?). We just got here. It's a time to be with friends, get involved in new activities, add classes, drop classes, and then re-add the class you dropped, all before the Registrar's deadline. So get moving.

Thumbs Up Thumbs Down Who Cares?

-The Crew Team

-The Red Sox

-Minor Field: The hottest spot for mud wrestling

-Liberal Arts

-New and improved Psi U dormitory

-Hyphenated last names

-McEwen: The new Commons

-The gaping hole that is the science building

-Fascist mass e-mail guidelines

-Psi U: Your place for broom-closet sized singles

-Overachievers

by Justin Thompson-Tucker '05 and Hilary King '05

-Lightsiders

-The Yankees

-All of the First Year's new friends

-Freshmen

-"How was your summer?"

-Republican National Convention

Comedian of errors

by Adam Polonski '08
I&I Contributor

Few can say that New Student Orientation is a wonderful, amazing, and fun experience while keeping a straight face. But then, it's not supposed to be; the program is not meant to entertain, but to orient, although there were certainly fun parts of it. The mentalist, for example, and the a cappella concert. Not to mention the comedian!

Wait. On second thought, I will mention the comedian. This "Scotty K" performed on the evening of our second day, after many long and weary hours of electronic surveys, math tests, academic planning presentations, and advisor meetings. And thus there was quite a host sitting themselves down in the barn, availing themselves of the popcorn and soda oh-so-generously provided.

And so Scotty K, a genuine, professional comedian with a number of television appearances to boast of, came forth upon the stage, and began to perform for us.

Now, comedians are never immaculate. Most have the occasional dirty joke or minor slur in their repertoire, and expletives abound. But Scotty K soon showed that he was different: he had nothing but slurs, dirty jokes, and expletives of the very vilest nature. His opening "joke" was a proud launching of the "f-bomb;" his follow-up, more repetitions of it at increasing levels of volume. I excused it: He's testing the water, thought innocent I. But I was wrong: he reached no higher level of sophistication. No, this son of a Baptist preacher is the very antithesis of what we the civilized folk of the world adore.

Profanities as numberless as the stars, as black as the void, spewed forth from him, followed by a tirade of the most comprehensive series of ethnic, religious, sexual, and class slurs I have ever heard. Scotty K's "act" is hateful enough to make the cruelest Klansman, the least relenting homophobe, the most manic misogynist, blanch and weep for the state of the world. No group was immune from the black spittle frothing forth from the bestial lips of Scotty K. On and on it went, and we all were tainted by his bile. But at last, after what felt like hours of invective, it ended. And I am ashamed to say that applause resounded in the Events Barn that night, just as hearty laughs greeted most of his poison. His message of hate had struck a chord with (some of) the audience.

Scotty K was a sower of discord, a creator of chaos, a grand wizard of discrimination, and an entertainer hired by Hamilton College. How ironic that, the very next day, Dr. Cullen gave her own far better performance and covered virtually every group ravaged by the beast, arguing against just what he had done. Her presentation was productive, informative, and insightful; Scotty K's was... not. It is shameful and disgusting that this exemplar of the gutter was allowed to perform before us (I don't even want to know how much he cost). It is perhaps forgivable or at least understandable that some people found it amusing, but it is positively disgraceful that Hamilton (indirectly) advocated his message by hiring him.

Apparently and thankfully, the College did not know what it was getting into; the blurb printed about the comedian comes word for word from his website (and no citation... Honor Code, indeed!), so I presume it did not screen his act beforehand. Still, we are an institution of higher learning: we are the paragons of society, the brightest stars of the world.

Comedians such as Scotty K are the enemies of cultured society: he is not merely lightheartedly poking fun. He is driving a wedge between the many facets of America, and undermines our land's moral foundation.

I just hope he isn't here next year.

Play it Safe
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For more information, talk to your eyecare professional or visit the consumer area of VCA's Web site, www.visionsite.org.
PROTECT YOUR CHILD'S EYESIGHT
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Lessons learned: Three years on the Hill

by Bill Chenevert '05
I&I Writer

Hey readers. I'm a senior this year. Some of you have been reading my articles for over three years now. I plan to write all year, this being my last year, making it four years of my ramblings being published. And so, if you have an idea for something you'd like to see me write about, please holler at me, with requests other than, "Gimme a shoutout this week." But seriously though, Kate Borne's m'dogg!

So I went up to the Spec office in Bristol during Orientation Week and found the first issue of the year from my freshmen year and from last year. Let me tell you, one thing I have learned in reading those two articles is that Hamilton has certainly given me a writing education, if not a technical one improving my grammar, then in not producing straight cheese - the kind you eat with wine and crackers. My AA article was full of clichés, softy emotional analyses of the experience and corny conclusions.

Then I went and read my junior year article. An improvement. But still, not so good. I started out rambling about Explo (I was still really excited about my summer teaching journalism at that point - somehow, the younger kids, the 8th and 9th graders, didn't have the same effect on me this year) and then analyzed an Alumni Review editorial written by President Stewart. My conclusion was that with two more years left, I had made the right decision in coming to Hamilton. What a time that was in my life, halfway through Hamilton, coming off the high of living in Kirkland with awesome people and settling into my RA gig in Saunders. It felt like things couldn't have been better. Maybe they won't ever be.

As an Orientation Leader this year, I found myself excited to meet my group and get on with the year and all the reunions and fun to be had with old and new friends. But attending some of the events the first-years were forced to attend: "Hamilton Past, Present and Future," "Toto: We're Not In Kansas Anymore," or "Making the Most of Your Hamilton Education," I kept having these 'Last' moments. "This is my last Convocation" or "This is the last batch of genuinely nice and enthusiastic new students I'll work with." Lord knows that first-years, before upperclassmen arrive, are the nicest Hamilton students there are. Where am I going with this? I'm not sure.

Being an OL was fun and I felt an apt ambassador to the true spirit of Hamilton for these first-years, but it was also a constant beating over the head with the fact that, this is my last year on the Hill.

So, the thing I really wanted to share with the community this week is an experience I had right before the arrival of the freshmen on campus. A friend of mine from home, Herbie, died on Thursday night, early Friday morning, August the 20th. He was the passenger and his friend was driving fast and under the influence. It hit me hard. He was 20. I started thinking about friends from home who I know tend to drive after they've had a few drinks because "they're fine," and about all the things I wanted to do with my life, and about how Herbie and Derek were supposed to graduate with their friend Andrew who died in an identical drunk driving accident right before I left for my freshman year at Hamilton.

What does it take for people to not drink and drive? A death of a best friend or a family member? And what do I do? How do I process the grief and how can I be proactive about trying to ensure that none of my friends ever decide to speed on a windy road at 3AM? I have so many questions and nobody has the answers. That's how survivors of a drunk driving accident will feel too, along with the friends and family members of the victim: full of questions that have no answers.

So it's my senior year and I'm going to take every day like there might not be a tomorrow. I'm gonna let the small things roll off my back and focus on the big things. I'm gonna call out friends and guests who think they're gonna drive somewhere after they've had a few drinks and beg them not to drive. All those questions I asked myself about what to do now... what can I do to not forget Herbie and try to affect the people around me because they haven't had a friend die, let alone two, before they were even old enough to legally drink. I think the answer is next to nothing; what you can do is live a life that other people can admire and emulate.

Treat people nicely and with respect (smile back and be polite for cripe's sake), acknowledge differences of lifestyle, politics, and background with tact and empathy, employ moderation as a social mantra when partying and socializing, and please don't drink and drive.

Before you get in that car, make ten cell phone calls, one of those calls will find you a designated driver willing to come pick you up.

Most importantly, live a full life that you'd be proud to look back on if your life was taken from you tomorrow. Cherish everything around you and value every new experience.

Freedom in the Athens Olympic games

American action abroad gives athletes a chance to compete without fear

by Blake Erb '05
I&I Writer

During the last couple weeks of summer, many of us were glued to our television screens watching the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece. We were saturated with news report on Greek security measures, drug testing, Team USA favorites and underdogs and human-interest stories on certain aspects of Athens and the Olympians overrunning the city. We witnessed such athletes as Michael Phelps and Natalie Coughlin give stellar performances in the swimming competitions. We watched our Women's Soccer team and Softball team beat entire fields of competition to bring home gold. We watched as our Men's Basketball Team, the "Dream Team," fail to live up to expectations and only bring home Olympic bronze. Among all these stories and other American triumphs and failures, it was easy to overlook the efforts of other countries.

For the first time ever since Afghanistan has had participants in the Olympic Games, female athletes were able to compete against other women as Afghani representatives. Friba Razayee competed in the Judo competition and Robina Muqimyar ran in the 100-meter dash. Neither of these women won. Neither of these women came close to the top contenders. This did not matter at all. These women were able to compete internationally in front of thousands of people and many more through television and radio broadcasts. Only a couple years before these same women were barely able to mutter a desire for such as thing as Olympic Games participation. Muqimyar is now able to train on the damaged surfaces of Kabul Stadium, a stadium previously used by the Taliban for the main purpose of public executions.

Another more recognizable story is that of the stellar performance of the Iraqi Men's Soccer Team. The team, who had to be airlifted out of Iraq by Australian Air Force, amazed the international crowds by finishing fourth in the soccer competition. Perhaps this was because it was the first time the Iraqi soccer players, and the rest of the Iraqi Olympians, were able to play without fear of the former head of the Iraqi Olympic Team, Uday Hussein. Hussein was known for torturing Iraqi Olympic athletes for failing or under-performing.

One story featured during a piece NBC aired about the Iraqi Soccer team, told about how Hussein would at times force the Iraqi soccer players to practice with metal ball covered in spikes. Obviously, the chance to compete in the goodwill spirit of the Olympics was a welcome change for the Iraqi Olympic soccer team.

These are two small examples of new opportunities changes that have come about because of the actions of the United States military. The removal of the Taliban as the ruling body of Afghanistan has given female athletes a chance to move out from under the shadow of men. The overthrow of Saddam Hussein's cruel regime has given athletes such as the soccer team the opportunity to realize the benefits of fair and safe play.

In this time of election buzz, Bush and Kerry have both used the War on Terror as political tools. It is easy to submerge oneself in all of the propaganda and generalizations about the war that both the Democrats and Republicans are force-feeding the American people. We must look at other aspects beyond the political nature of these conflicts. The above examples are evidence that people are being helped. They may not realize it or even welcome it, as the Iraqi soccer team has already done. But at the same time they don't seem to begrudge the fact that they have more opportunities and more freedom. Neither Afghanistan nor Iraq common citizens have the quality of life that Americans and Western Europeans do. Perhaps they never will. Change and improvement takes time but anti-war Americans and presently, the common Iraqi people, seem to think that snap-of-the-fingers change needs to take place or the military and Bush are acting like invaders and occupiers rather than liberators. Perhaps a short period of war now can result in decades of progress and improvement.

The military has never sought glory and it will obviously receive none from its efforts from the past few years. The official motto of the United States Army Special Forces, better known as the Green Berets, is De opresso liber or To liberate the oppressed. The Green Berets and other military servicemen have served in Afghanistan and Iraq to fight for those who cannot fight for themselves, to protect the ideals they firmly believe in and to ensure that their fellow Americans can sleep soundly in bed without fear. The men serving overseas, in Afghanistan, in Iraq and elsewhere, aren't paying attention to what John Kerry is saying or what Dick Cheney is saying They are focusing on their duty and their buddies with which they are fighting side by side.

Liberals and anti-war Americans can babble on about Bush's motives of going to war with reasons ranging from our need to gain oil to Bush wanting revenge for the assassination attempt made on his father. But in this age of globalization and international cooperation, regimes such as the Taliban and Hussein's are a threat not just to the countries they control but to the entire world. It is dangerous and plain stupid to call for isolationist policies or measures that can be considered "weak" by our enemies.

It is wrong to simply stand aside and watch as cruel tyrants or fanatical terrorists control entire populations through fear and violence. It is the moral responsibility of the United States, and other able countries, to fight for and protect people and countries that are being terrorized by such groups.

Perhaps the actions of Bush and the United States military have been a mistake, but I would rather see my fellow Americans make an attempt to help out oppressed countries like Afghanistan or Iraq than see the United States sit on the sidelines and watch with morbid pleasure as a country destroys itself.

*Information on Olympic Athletes gained from www.athens2004.com

The few, the brave, the proud: The streakers

by Andrew Whalen '08
I&I Contributor

Whether apparent or subtle, showing off our assets is ingrained in every one of our characters. We are all hardwired to accentuate what we feel to be our better attributes, while downplaying our perceived faults. However, it appears that some of the automatons have begun to take on a life of their own. A bold few in the Hamilton community have learned to reject the harsh guidelines nailed on the door of society. The few, the brave, the proud, the streakers.

We live in a society where the nude human form is an object of shame yet intense allure. This odd conflict in ideology is due largely in part to the human fascination with sex, which is, at the moment, experiencing a bit of a boom. In a new age where sexual liberation is so often confused with feminism and empowerment, sex has become a hot commodity. Everywhere we turn there is scantily clad women advertising soft drinks, or shirtless, near-naked men selling clothing, to the point of over-saturation. Yet the nude form itself is never a part of this deluge. Sex is the constant insinuations in so much of our media and culture, yet there is still the odd need to cover up the half-nude statues in our nation's capital (covered sarcastically in a 2001 article featured on http://www.rantsinyourpants.com/specials/cover_up.htm) The result is a generation whose knowledge of true nudity is confined to the realm of bawdy sexual fantasy and the occasional sultry encounter, secreted from parents like a cookie from the jar. It is as if we can no longer separate the human form from its erotic asides. The human body has become a sex object, rather than being a source of so much beauty and potential in addition to a sexual force.

So what does all of this have to do with naked men running across the stage like Adam sans leaf, while hundreds of freshmen watched on in disgust and bemusement (perhaps even envy)? Excellent question, thank you for asking. These noble gentlemen are taking the stigma out of nudity. With appendages flapping like meaty pendulums and wearing only sneakers and goofy grins, these men have introduced us to the human form in a very non-sexual way. When confronted with pale flesh that seldom sees the sun at a school assembly, it is hard to put the nudity in a sexual context. These guys are not modeling the newest line of Air Whoever's. They are genuinely naked.

Is it really surprising that such a simplistic idea births a strong statement? Whether intended or not, our campus cape-less crusaders are introducing many of us, myself included, to a fresh perspective. The human body can be appreciated and revealed in ways other than sexual ones. It is certainly an odd first lesson to learn, but a valuable one. As freshmen, it is perhaps the best welcome to college that we could have. So thank you streakers, for opening up the proverbial trench coat and giving us a glimpse at the underlying lessons, whether explicit or insightful. I would thank each of you personally, were it not that you covered your figurative butts more successfully than your literal ones. Although I may never have the courage to join such brave souls, I will always voice my support behind the cowardly curtain of my words. May the collective spirit of the Hamilton Community (well, minus the whiny dissenters), warm your naked form and quicken your feet, so you may continue to run into our hearts and away from the seeking hands of Campus Safety.

Write for I&I!

email bchase or spec@hamilton.edu

An introduction to college life

by Melissa Kong '08
I&I CONTRIBUTOR

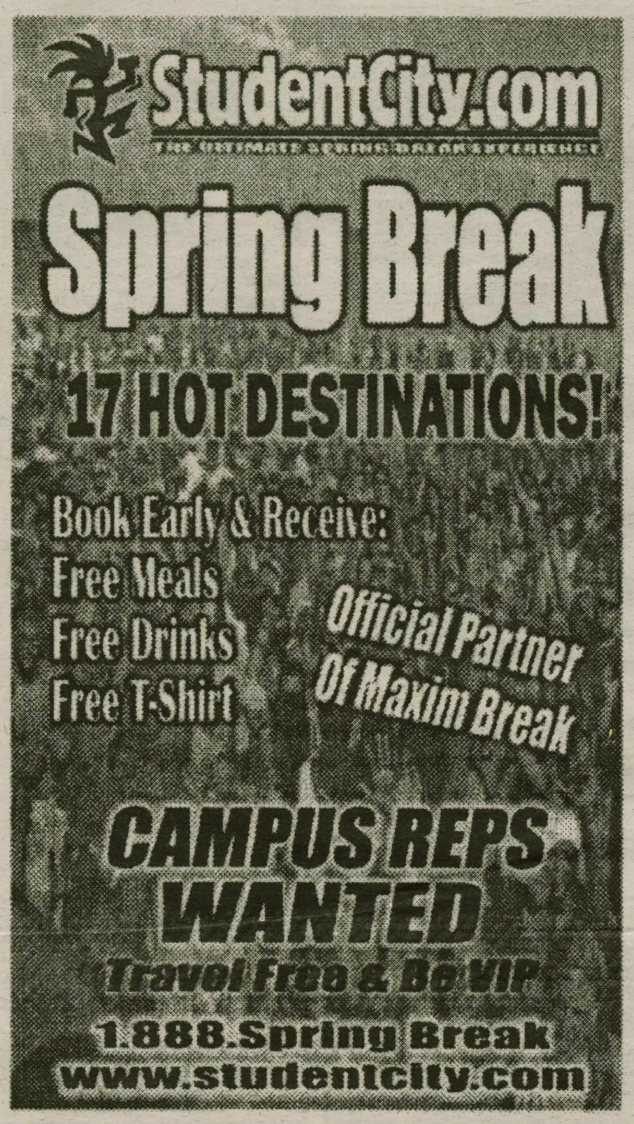
We finally made it. No more scantrons, no more classes for seven hours a day, no more curfews. College life is finally upon us. Though the first few weeks here on the hill have been thoroughly enjoyed, there has been a progressive realization that college is no longer a distant depiction of what the future holds, but rather, our present reality. This thought is somewhat bittersweet.

In exchange for this newfound freedom, a lot has been sacrificed. Mom's home cooked meals have been replaced by cheeseburgers and pizza at Commons. New friends are beginning to take the place of old ones. You have exchanged your insanely comfortable bed back home for the chance to live in a tiny room (unless you live in South) with complete strangers. College has resembled summer camp more than an institution for higher education, that is, up until our first day of classes. Since then, days have been filled with pages upon pages of reading and a handful of papers to write. In a single day, I hear at least twenty people complain about the ridiculous amount of work there is to be done.

But in noticing the multitude or overwhelmed faces, one phrase comes to mind: It can be done. At a time when so many aspects of life have rapidly changed, it makes sense to feel completely overwhelmed. This is normal, so just keep going. Know that the reading assignments can be done, fitting a futon into a room that closely resembles the size of a shoebox really is possible, and the new friends you make will be with you through the very best and worst of times.

Forget the titles you were given in high school or back at home, for they no longer pursue you. Be whoever you want to be, join a club that interests you, play a sport you love, or just try something new. However you choose to spend your time here at Hamilton, never forget that all of the challenges you are presented with are surmountable. Realize that you are attending one of the most selective colleges, even if no one back home has ever heard of it, for a reason.

Most importantly, enjoy it. Whether you find yourself studying in the library, eating at the diner, walking across the bridge, sitting in a classroom, or watching a movie in your dorm room, savor every moment of it. Never again will you be able to study the things you love as intensely as you will now, nor will you be able to play x-box for two hours a night. Remember, life is a garden: dig it!



ATTENTION STUDENTS OF THE CLASS 2008!!!

Change are occuring all over campus and if you want a say in what happens, here is your chance. Leaders are needed. If you desire to represent your class, this is your opportunity. Join the Student Assembly and give your class a voice. If you are interested in any of the following positions, you must: First, write a platform (no longer than 100 words- to be printed in the Spectator) and Email it to me (hfrechet) no later than Wednesday, September 9th. Second, complete a petition with 25 signatures from students in your class and send it to me through campus mail, also no later than Wednesday, September 9th.

Central Council
The executive branch of the Student Assembly is the Central Council. The Central Council is responsible for coordinating the activities of the other branches of the Student Assembly.
- 1 president
- 1 secretary/treasurer
- 5 class representatives

Honor Court: The purpose of the Honor Court is to uphold Hamilton standards of academic honesty and to insure protection of student's rights in questions of alleged violations of the Hamilton College Honor Code.
- 1 representative from 2008 only

Judicial Board
The composition of the Judicial Board is 15 members: 10 students (including a non-voting student Chair), three faculty and two administrators or staff members. From that pool, five members are drawn to conduct a hearing; each hearing group includes three students and two non-students, plus the student Chair. We are seeking at least two nominees for each of the nine student positions; nominees must be in good academic and disciplinary standing.
- 3 representatives from the Class of 2006

If interested in the following positions, you must:
1. Write a platform statement of 100 words or less and submit it by e-mail to hfrechet; the statement will be printed in *The Spectator.*
AND
2. Complete a petition with 25 signatures from students in your class (for Judicial Board) and submit it through campus mail to Henry Frechette.

Election Dates
-- Wednesday September 9th: Elections for Class Presidents, Secretary/Treasurers. Elections for Central Council Class Representatives.
--Due to an error in the elections process last year, the class of 2006 judicial board elections will also be held on Wednesday, September 9th.

If you have any questions please contact me.
Henry M. Frechette III, Student Assembly Elections Chair

Features

thefacebook.com craze hits Hamilton College

by Emily Lemanczyk '05
FEATURES EDITOR

In years past, one of the most exciting things about the beginning of the year for students is the little, coveted college publication, the college Facebook. The book provides each new first-year, and some lucky upperclassmen, with the privilege to see (or stalk) members of the incoming freshman class before you even meet them.

This year, however, the popularity of the Hamilton College publication has been perhaps undermined by the new, online version of a facebook. Thefacebook.com is a national online directory "that connects people through social networks at colleges," and has taken colleges and universities all over the United States by storm. Unlike the Hamilton College facebook, thefacebook.com is not sponsored by any college or university, and it does not include every member of every class. Rather, the independent website was created to allow individual students to connect by creating an accessible online profile.

In order to be featured, students must log on to the site, create a username and a password and set up their own accounts. A facebook profile can list the student's name, interests, college, hometown, and class schedule, as well as their AOL instant messenger screen name, e-mail addresses, campus address and even their cell phone numbers if students wish to disclose such information.

After a profile has been created, students can search other members' profiles for students from their colleges, hometowns, or high schools. People can also set up a friend web, a feature similar to an instant messenger buddy list. Unlike an AOL Buddy List, thefacebook.com allows members to view other members' friends, and people can connect to others on the site by becoming "friends."

In order to become someone's "friend" on the website, all you need to do is ask by sending an e-mail. The new "friend" then confirms the online "friendship," and the two new facebook.com friends are then listed on each other's profiles as "friends."

This popular website, created by Harvard junior Mark Zuckerberg, has grown exponentially since its inception this past February. With over 50 colleges and universities, including Cornell, Berkeley, Williams and Yale, with "popular consumption" on the website, the site provides students with access to over 180,000 student profiles. The website hopes to grow even more this month, after being introduced to over 70 new campuses with the new school year.

So how did the site "hit" Hamilton? Caroline O'Shea '07 said she heard about the facebook.com from friends at other universities. "My friends at other schools had had it for a while, and they told me when Hamilton was on it," O'Shea commented. "Now I'm obsessed with it. I'm on it every few days [checking new profiles]."

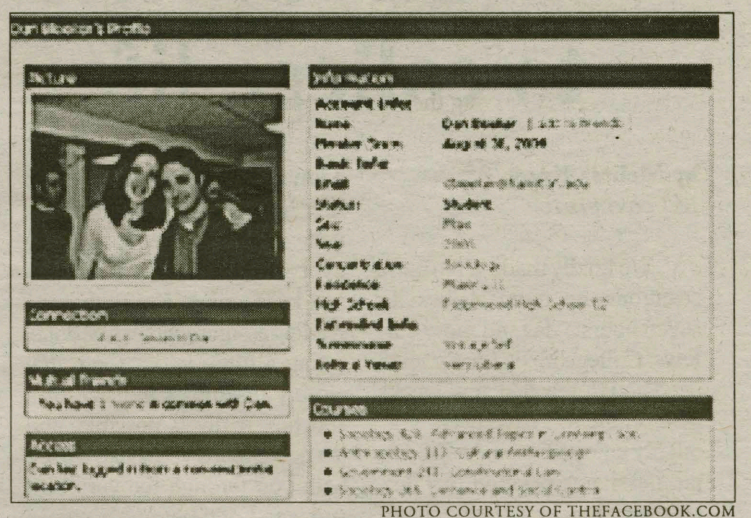


PHOTO COURTESY OF THEFACEBOOK.COM

Dan Bleeker '06 has a profile on thefacebook.com!

Bill Chenevert '05 discovered it from friends at other schools as well: "I was working at a camp this summer with kids at other schools who were on it, like Yale and UVA. At the time, I was still keen on Friendster.com, which is like the same thing." Unlike Friendster.com, however, thefacebook.com is more of a college-oriented thing. Interestingly, thefacebook.com, although popular among college students, is not limited to only them. University alumni can register on the site and create their own profiles.

Hamilton has been "on" the website officially since August 5th, but students have been registered as individual users for even longer. Chenevert is a more recent facebook.com user. "I was shocked to see how many 2008s were on it by the time I registered. Maybe people had been waiting a long time for Hamilton to get on board and when we did it was like the most exciting thing they'd seen in a while."

So what exactly is thefacebook.com used for? For many students, it's another method of procrastination. For other students, thefacebook.com is another way to meet people, as the website provides is own online messenger system. For many others, though, it's simply a fad. "I don't really use it a lot," admits Lexi Buscaglia '05. "Really only when people email me to be my friend."

How to register on thefacebook.com

1. Go to www.thefacebook.com
2. Click on the Register Now! icon
3. Type in your name, status, e-mail and password
4. Click on Register Now!
5. After a welcome page comes up, click any link in the left-hand column to add your own personal information, contact information, a picture, and any other information you want to share with every other college student anywhere with an internet hook-up

USE: not your typical service experience

by Danielle Sclafani '08
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

"Nineteen people, seven days, two vans, one city ... what a trip!" Michael Viveiros' pen busily danced across the pages of the USE (Urban Service Experience) journal as he thoughtfully reflected on the events that transpired during the weeklong service-based pre-orientation program. "Sleeping in a church, volunteering along Hospitality Row and formulating many lifelong friendships through games of Mafia and late-night storytelling on the streets of Utica, USE was more than just a typical service program," Michael scribbled as the Jitney made its way back to the Hamilton campus nearly two weeks ago. In fact, for many, USE was not just a pre-orientation program but a truly life-altering experience. "Serving the community is a difficult job, and it takes a toll on you, both physically and emotionally," said Philip Holdredge, another USE participant. "It's hard seeing little kids whose parents are only 13 or 14 years older than them. It really makes you think - it's tough stuff."

Unfortunately, when many hear about the USE pre-orientation program, they falsely assume that it is the pre-orientation option for the wimpy, "indoor kids" of Hamilton College.

However, such an assumption is wrongly made. While USE is clearly very different from many Adirondack Adventure trips, many USE participants choose USE over AA not because they don't want to work hard or dislike the "great outdoors", but because of the nature of the program. Instead of trekking through the Adirondacks like most programs, USE participants spent the week volunteering with organizations in Utica such as JCTOD, Hope House, the Refugee Center, the House of the Good Shepherd, Compassion Coalition. AA does offer a service trip; however USE is a seperate, on-going program.

While the "USErs" clearly were not spending their time canoeing or sleeping in tents under the stars, days were still full of challenges and draining. Cleaning out and painting rooms in Utica's Refugee Center, stuffing backpacks with school supplies for underprivileged children in intense, fast-paced assembly lines at Compassion Coalition and playing basketball with children plagued by emotional problems were not easy tasks. Regardless of the difficulty of the task before them, USE participants did not complain. "When you're paying $40,000 a year in tuition while the people around you are so poor and in such desperate situations, you don't really think to complain - you just don't," said Philip.

Even Michael, who admitted that he opted to do USE over Adirondack Adventure because he enjoys the convenience of the "indoors," soon discovered that the indoors were not always a comfort after a day serving the community. "I couldn't help but feel slightly guilty - I mean, compared to those kids, we had it great, even though we all smelled bad after not showering for four or five days," he said while reflecting on the children he met at JCTOD that lived in the poorest and most dangerous part of Utica.

Indeed, for most, the comfort of USE did not lie in the urban environment or the indoor recluse of the church where participants spent the week, but in the friendship and support of the other USErs. Led by College Chaplain Jeff McCarn, College law advisor Jeannine Murtaugh and students Ann "A. Ho" Horwitz, John "Tight" Pappano, (both juniors,) and Robin Peck, a sophomore, the USE program was just as much about building community among Hamiltonians as it was about serving the community of Utica. A strong bond was formed over the course of the week that is obvious even weeks later. "We all got along so well! We supported each other ... laughed, listened to John's stories. It was awesome," said Erin Bishop. Christina Yu decidedly added, "USE rocks! We are tight."

INTERESTED IN THE USE PROGRAM?

DON'T WORRY, YOU HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE!

THERE IS ANOTHER URBAN SERVICE EXPERIENCE PROGRAM JANUARY!

CONTACT COLLEGE CHAMPLAIN JEFF MCARN (JMCARN@HAMILTON.EDU) AT X4130 FOR MORE INFORMATION

Love to write?

Bored on Thursday nights?

Even if you aren't, come write for Features!

(I promise it's fun!)

e-mail Emily at elemancz!

Kenya Dig it? 11 Students Travel to Kenya

by Emily Lemanczyk '05
FEATURES EDITOR

While many Hamilton students were beginning their summer vacations, 11Hamilton students joined Professor of Government Steve Orvis for an interdisciplinary field school excursion to Kenya. The field school was offered to students in conjunction with the government seminar class, "Democratization and Kenya: What Difference Does Democracy Make?" Students examined issues in Kenya through an array of "hands on" learning experiences, as well as a series of discussions with leading politicians, academics and civic activists from Kenya. Students engaged in active learning by asking questions, observing closely at all times and trying to discover as much as possible in the limited time of the field school. Specifically, students discussed and explored the key question: "What difference does democracy make?"

PHOTO BY EMILY LEMANCZYK '05

Students left the United States on May 29 and spent several days in Nairobi, the nation's capital city. The first day, students met with students from the University of Nairobi to discuss the curriculum, tour the main campus and tour the city of Nairobi as a whole. The next day, students received an official tour of the city of Nairobi from Dr. Chris Macoloo, a renowned geographer. Students then traveled to a local Game Park, where they learned firsthand of the devastating effects of the United States' travel advisory. The following day, students were able to hear several prominent Kenyans speak, including Dr. Apollo Njonjo, the SDP leader and a delegate to National Constitutional Convention, and David Makali, the founder of The Media Institute and the Editor for *The Sunday Standard*, one of Kenya's most popular newspapers.

After spending time in Nairobi, students then continued their field school by traveling (via cow truck) to Maasailand in the Melepo Hills in the Kajiado District of Kenya, which is located south of Nairobi. While in the Melepo Hills, students were able to do an overnight stay with a Maasai family. After the one-night home-stay, students then traveled from Kajiado to Amboseli National Park, where students spent the next two days on a safari.

The group then returned to Nairobi for one day to meet with the political activist group, Release Political Prisoners Pressure Group (RPP). The afternoon was spent working with the group Kenyan Women Living with Aids in Kiambio, Nairobi. While in Kiambio, one of the poorest slums in the country, students made home visits to AIDS patients, giving the patients food and money to help them get through the coming week.

The final segment of the field school, the Greenbelt Segment, took place in Kanjuu, Kirinyaga. Students traveled to Kanjuu, where they helped with the internationally renownd group, the Greenbelt Movement, with programs like tree-planting, crop-gathering, farming, and construction projects for the community.

Students then returned to Nairobi for one more day, where they met with Wangari Maathai, the founder of the Green Belt Movement, and ate dinner with Irene Thuo's '06 family. After a wonderful home-cooked meal, students departed Nairobi to return home or to continue their world travels.

Calendar of Events

September 3- September 10

Friday - September 3, 2004
Christian Fellowship Meeting 6:15PM
Starsky And Hutch 7:00 & 10:00PM
BSU Welcome Back Party! 10:00PM

Saturday - September 4, 2004
Make A Difference Day 10:30AM
Much Ado About Nothing 4:00PM
Starsky and Hutch 9:30PM & 11:59PM

Sunday - September 5, 2004
HOC kayaking trip to Canandaigua Lake
Newman Mass 1:00PM
Much Ado About Nothing 4:00PM
Starsky and Hutch 7:00PM & 10:00PM

Monday - September 6, 2004
Daily Prayer 12:00PM
Capoeira Practice 4:30PM
Freethinkers Club Meeting 9:00PM

Tuesday - September 7, 2004
US Marine Corps Info Session 10:00AM
Newman Mass 12:00PM
CACC Meeting 3:00PM
Scottish Country Dance 7:30PM
Senior Job Search: Education 7:30PM

Wednesday - September 8, 2004
Men's Soccer -HOME vs. SUNY IT 4:00PM
Capoeira Practice 4:30PM
HAVOC Fair 5:00PM
Auditions for Fall Theatre Production 6:30PM
Women's Field Hockey-Away vs. Utica 7:00PM
Senior Job Search: Finance 7:30PM
Senior Job Search: Non-Profit 7:30PM

Thursday - September 9, 2004
Newman Mass 12:00PM
Auditions for Fall Theatre Production 6:30PM

Friday - September 10, 2004
Campus Life Open House 1-4 PM
Capoeira Practice 4:30PM
Christian Fellowship meeting 6:15PM
Women's Volleyball-Away vs. Elmira 8:00PM
Fall Faculty Concert 8:00PM

THIS WEEK IN HAMILTON HISTORY

Admissions at Hamilton Rise Five Per Cent
September 24, 1976

Despite the national economic crunch cutting admissions at many private schools, statistics compiled on Hamilton's Freshman class show that freshman enrollment is up roughly five per cent.

Applicants this year totaled 1,426 applications with 279 enrollments. Last year, 1,310 applications were received, with 592 students admitted and 250 enrolled.

"We are losing to good placed...the best in the East," said Christopher Covert, Hamilton director of admissions. Hamilton "lost" 12 students to Bowdin, 12 to Colgate, 10 each to Cornell and Dartmouth, 9 to Williams, 8 to Yale, and 7 each to Brown, Union, Penn and Wesleyan.

Common admissions, those students admitted to two or more colleges, generally chose Hamilton over schools such as Colgate, Hobart, Albany, Rochester, and Union, said Covert.

Freshmen did well in the their high school standings: approximately 71% were in the top fifth of their class, compared to 72% last year.

This class includes foreign students from Canada, Chile, France, Greece, Japan, The Netherlands, and Scotland. The number of minority students entering college is about the same as last year: there are seven new black and Puerto Rican students.

Library Installs New "Tattle Tape" Security
September 9, 1976

A new library security system known as "tattle tape" has been installed at a cost of $20,000 in an attempt to improve the accessibility of materials to students, said Ralph Stenstrom, director of the Burke Library. The system, which consists of turnstiles and a sensitized "gate" through which students must pass, is expected to cut down on the number of books leaving the library without being properly checked out.

"I am too new at Hamilton to know if it will affect the honor code." Said Stenstrom, but continued, "we don't welcome this kind of system." The decisions to install the "tattle tape", explained Stenstrom, was originally initiated by former director Walter Pilkington after complaints were made about trouble locating a large range of books. The problem was not one of theft, but rather or unaccounted for materials, said Stenstrom. In fact, few books were permanently missing and 90 percent of the unchecked books were eventually returned.

With the new system, a magnetic tape imbedded with the materials which have not been properly checked out will activate a chine as the student passes through the gate. Library policy will be to assume that it is an oversight rather than a theft. The arrangment of the collections will not be altered but it will now not be possible to leave materials in carrols overnight in the all night reading room, said Stenstrom. If they are, Stenstrom explained, "we have no way of knowing if they are checked out."

Rash of Illnesses
September 19, 1975

If you've been suffering from sneezing, sniffling, and a running nose for the past week, you're not alone. The health center reports that over two hundred cases of "upper respiratory aliments" were reported last week alone, and this week's total should be even higher.

During the first three days of this week, 53 men and 42 women have sought relief at the Rudd Health center, while countless others have chosen to suffer in their rooms.

According to Martha McNeil, head nurse at the health center, this year's epidemic is the worst in the five years in which she has been here. Although no cure for the common cold exists, the health center does dispense throat lozenges and decongestants, and they suggest that fluid intact be increased.

A A vs. NSO: a first-year's take on orientation

by Annie Bowler '08
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Last week, as new students arrived, there seemed to be a few first- years who had it all under control. Laughing and talking with other students, they appeared to have been there for years. If one were to have approached these students, and listened in on their conversations, they would have heard stories of bear scares, bug infestations and no running water. What were these kids talking about? AA.

No these frosh are not recovering alcoholics, but participants in Hamilton's 20-year Adirondack Adventure program. AA is the pre-orientation program offered by the college. Although it is not required by the school, over half of each entering class elects to particpate.

One would think that both orientation programs would offer similar orientation experiences. However, students' introductions to Hamilon College differed tremendously depending upon when they arrived.

Obviously, students either packed up and trekked out into the mountains to camp in the woods for a while, or they came to campus to spend a week going from one NSO event to another, meeting people along the way and staying in their own beds.

The programs began quite similarly. Students arriving on either Monday August 16th or a week later were welcomed by excited Hamilton students, staff and alumni when they arrived on campus. Dorm keys were issued, and boxes were hauled out of trunks and into rooms. Parents left, and students, still a little stunned, were led down to the field house where they engaged in various "ice-breaking" activities, which resulted in shaking an absurd amount of (most likely dirty and germy) hands and memorizing one, maybe two names before forgetting the rest. These germ-swapping and name -game activities mark the end of the similarities between NSO and AA.

From there the AA'ers spent a day packing up supplies and planing out routes and goals for their trips. Andrew D'Amico, a first-year student and participant in AA's triple combo challenge trip, had nothing but positive things to say about his transition into college. "AA was an awesome experience because it helped me to meet people and I learned what college was about".

For many, AA was a way to start college life a little bit at a time, beginning with the security of their group members and then being exposed to more and more people as the week went on.

First-years returned from AA on Monday afternoon. They then cleaned up for a banquet with program leader, Andrew Jillings. Early the next morning, the rest of the freshmen class arrived on campus.

NSO started here, right where AA left off; for the other half of the class of 2008, the program was their first experience with college life. After the unpacking, the goodbyes, and the initial "meet and greet" activities, NSO divided students into their orientation groups. NSO greatly differed from AA in that students had more freedom; they were able to chose whom they hung around with and what they wanted to do. Aside from the mandatary fitness test and class registrations, students were responsible for getting themselves to where they needed to be, and getting there on time. NSO, unlike AA, focused much less on the small groups, which only met once or twice the whole week, and much more on the class as a whole.

Students expressed mixed emotions about their orientation groups. John Denton, a first-year who attended AA stated, "Because we were all so preoccupied with keeping up our social appearances, we really didn't get as good of a chance to get to know each other in such a personal basis. Being in the woods with people, you get to see them as who they are, unwashed and uncensored." Denton says that he has kept in contact with his AA friends, whereas he commented on not knowing anyone from his NSO group.

For those students who didn't attend AA, meeting people at Hamilton was a whole different story. Some commented on how everyone knew each other already, while others expressed relief that the one or two people they met who had done AA introduced them to already formed groups of friends.

Sarah Peacock disagreed with Denton's comment about the quality of the small groups at NSO. Peacock, who did not attend AA, said that the people she met at NSO were quite friendly to her, even though she had not been with them the week earlier on AA.

The NSO week involved the teachers and school officials much more than the Adirondack week did. Throughout the orientation week, students had the opportunity to meet with department chairs and the president of the school, and to familiarize themselves with the traditions of the college. The week ended as returning students arrived over the weekend, and Hamilton's 193rd year was kicked off at Convocation on Sunday afternoon.

As first-years began classes on Monday, college life became a reality; both orientation programs seem like a distant memory. Regardless of how they began their careers at Hamilton, students are now settled in and ready to go. Some have a larger pile of dirtylaundry, but all are a little less tense than when they first arrived.

Emerson recipients finish summer research

by Emily Lemanczyk '05
FEATURES EDITOR

Some of Hamilton's most motivated students were awarded the school's prestigious Emerson Grants this past spring. The grant program, created in 1997, gives students the opportunity to collaborate with faculty members and research an area of interest over summer vacation. Eighteen students have taken the opportunity to conduct independent research this past summer either on Hamilton's campus, at home or abroad.

According to the Hamilton College website, the Emerson Foundation Grant program "was designed to provide students with significant opportunities to work collaboratively with faculty members, researching an area of interest." The grants are not limited to one specific concentration or subject, and students are encouraged to explore disciplines outside of their majors. This academic year, all 18 Emerson grant winners will make public presentations either describing or displaying their work or research. Topics range from interactive gaming projects to geoarcheological digs.

Michael Gruen '06 (Englewood, NJ) has always been an avid gamer. So when given the opportunity to combine his love for computer technology with his academic studies, Gruen took full advantage. Gruen spent the summer researching and executing an Emerson summer collaborative grant project titled "Advanced Computing Educational Simulation" with Hamilton College Professor Doug Raybeck.

The Spectator's own Kat McGrory '05 worked with Hamilton College Professor of Communications Catherine Kaha on a project titled "Just the facts? Print journalism, objectivity and the digital age." McGrory studied the technological advances of the 21st century and the challenges it brings to the notion of objectivity in print journalism.

Even after her extensive coursework in the field, sociology major Becky Conrey '05 still had some lingering questions about social norms, deviant behavior and its effect on identity construction. In order to answer these questions, Conrey will collaborate with Hamilton College Professor Jenny Irons on an Emerson Summer Research Project titled "Identity Construction within Relationships Socially Marked as Deviant."

Christy House '06 worked with Hamilton College Professor Robert Palusky to create a project that will portray the role of women in Iraqi society versus the role of women in the United States. House studied the societal portrayal of Iraqi women and used her artistic skills to create clay and building figures of the women and their environment. House stated that "the focal point of the project will be how the expectations of society limit women from personal expression"; her project represents "the boundaries of personal expression created by both societies." The figurines will be on display during the 2004-2005 academic year in the List Art Center at Hamilton College.

Dave Gordon, Zachary Hesse and Matt Himmel '05 used their Emerson grants to try to find a different, more efficient way to produce energy right on campus.The three students, all members of the class of 2005, will be working with Hamilton College Professor Michael McCormick on a project titled "A Feasibility Study: The Benefits of Biodiesel Fuel at Hamilton College." Gordon, Himmel and Hesse recently took Industrial Ecology with Professor McCormick.

As an Emerson scholar, Amanda Bennett '06 worked with Hamilton College English Professor Jodi Schorb on a project titled "Indian Captives/ Remarkable Conversions: Reading the Pequot Execution Narrative."

Wendy Garratt-Reed '05 was able to conduct an archaeological study of an early 19th century homestead in St. George, Maine with her Emerson grant. Working with Hamilton Professor Tom Jones, Garratt-Reed spent six weeks this summer in St. George, doing archaeological excavations. After the excavations, Garrat-Reed spent four weeks conducting research, pursuing any lingering questions regarding the history of the homestead site.

PHOTO BY EMILY LEMANCZYK '05

Dave Gordon '05 and Zach Hesse '05 won Emerson grants.

Dan Walker '05 conducted research with Hamilton College Professor Onno Oerlemans about an idea called "conspicuous concealment" and its role in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Blithedale Romance* with his Emerson Grant.

Ann Hapanowicz '05continued to explore her interest in banking as an Emerson scholar this past summer. She worked with Hamilton College Professor Derek Jones on a project to collect and analyze case study data and investigated the links between "human resource management practices" and business performance. Hapanowicz worked with new data from firms in Central New York to study productivity in the work place.

Andrew Lyons '06 uncovered a little bit of history and ended debates surrounding the death, in 1822, of an innocent slave in Charleston, S.C. this summer with the help of Hamilton College History Professor Robert Paquette and funding from an Emerson grant. Lyons worked with Professor Paquette on a project that will result in the publication of the transcribed and edited letters of Mary Lamboll Thomas Beach.

Many other students were awarded Emerson Grants as well. Other winner's include: Ashley Hatfield '05, Maria Jose Perez Hernandez '06, Farrah Lakhani '05, Joshua Newman '06, Kristofer Rios '05, Anne Schlesinger '06 , Alexandra Sweet '05 and Ingrid Tharasook '07.

Advertisements

Call for Recommendations
Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award

The Nominations Committee of the Alumni Council invites members of the on-campus community, alumni, and others to provide the Committee with recommendations for the annual Hamilton College Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award. In October, the Alumni Council will act on the nomination put forward by the Committee. The formal award presentation will take place at Hamilton during the Spring 2005 meetings of the Alumni Council.

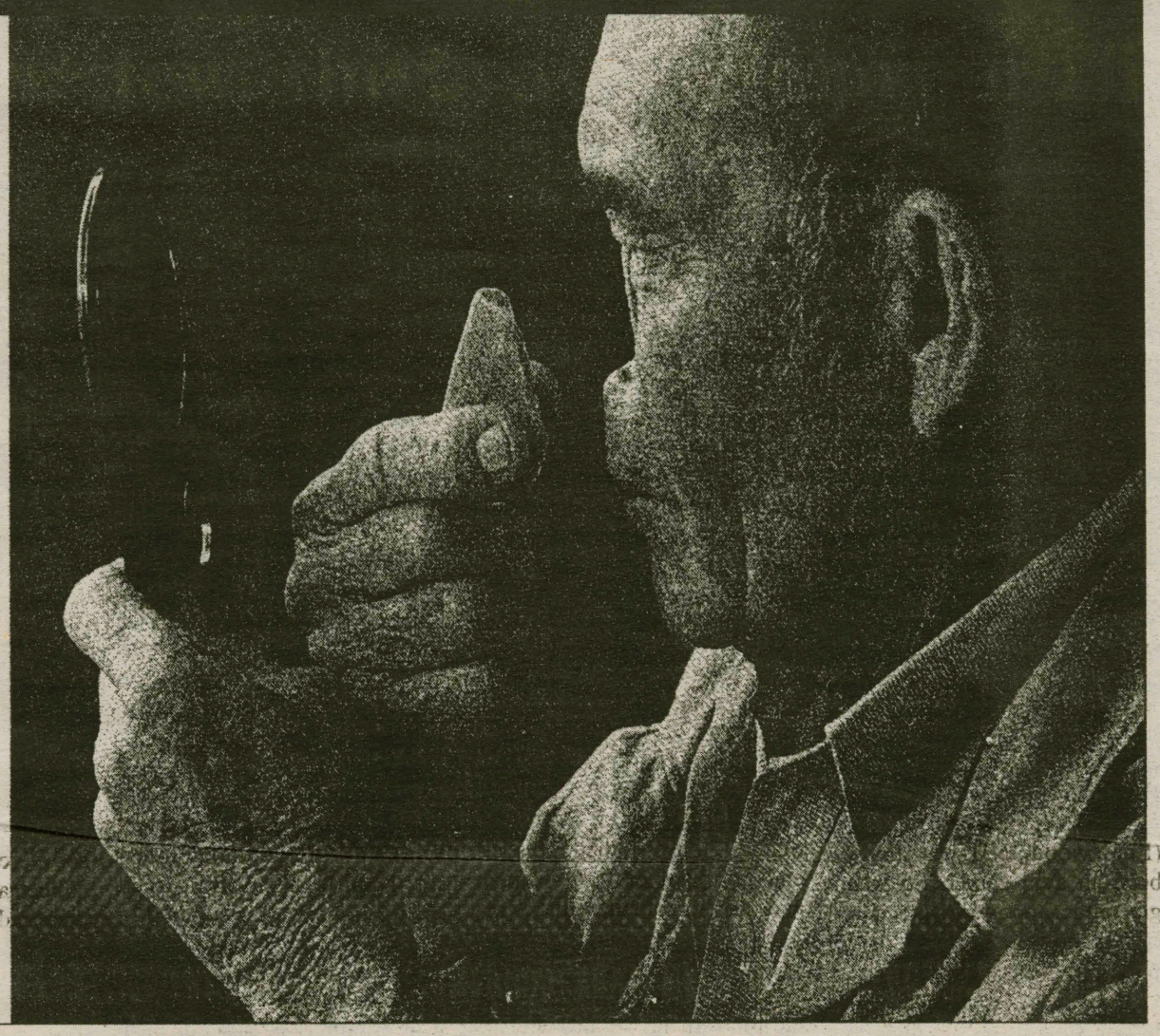
The purpose of the award is to recognize an employee who has substantially contributed to Hamilton through distinguished performance in his or her position and through involvement in student, alumni or other activities in the College community. At the time of selection, the individual will be an active member of Hamilton's faculty, administration, staff, or maintenance and operations. Distinguished Service Award honorees to date: Eugene M. Tobin (2003) and Carole A. Bellini-Sharp (2004).

By September 8, 2004, please forward suggestions to the Alumni Secretary - Dean Abelon, Office of Communications and Development, Hamilton College, 198 College Hill Road, Clinton, New York 13323, or dablelon@hamilton.edu. All suggestions should include the candidate's name, position at the College, justification for the recommendation, and the name and contact information of the person submitting the suggestion.

The justification should be detailed and should cite specific examples of outstanding performance. All suggestions will be presented to the Nominations Committee of the Alumni Council in the format in which they are submitted to the Alumni Secretary.

SKIN CANCER CAN KILL YOU. AND NOW FOR THE REALLY BAD NEWS.

Skin cancer can kill you. But it's much more likely to disfigure you. Every year, thousands of Americans lose chunks of their skin to the disease. Noses. Ears. Eyebrows. So examine your skin regularly for warning signs. If you find anything bleeding, crusting or not healing, see your dermatologist. For more information on how to identify skin cancer, call 1-888-462-DERM, or visit www.aad.org.



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF DERMATOLOGY

Arts & Entertainment

Shakespeare in the Glen: A continuing tradition

by Julia Stahl '08
A&E Writer

It is late afternoon on the first day of classes and students across campus are catching up with friends and slowly adjusting, or readjusting, to college life. Yet there are those, like the students involved in the upcoming production of "Much Ado About Nothing", who have chosen to take a headlong plunge back into the excitement and hard work of the school year.

The show, which opens on Saturday, is this year's continuation of Shakespeare in the Glen, a tradition started three years ago with an outdoor production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream". The production, co-sponsored by student theater group Untitled At Large and the Department of Theater and Dance, was cast last May, leaving time for only one read-through before cast and crew departed for summer break.

Now back, having worked on their lines independently all summer, they have been rehearsing together only since Saturday. "It's daunting to put together a major show in such a short amount of time," concedes director Shannon Fitzsimons, '05, "...but it's liberating for the actors to have so much influence on the final production." Cast members Jordan Wishner, '05, and Amanda Besinger, '06, were equally positive, noting that although the material is difficult, the atmosphere is full of creativity, mutual support and fun. Remembering his positive impressions of the first production in 2001, Wishner adds that it is "...cool to be part of that tradition now."

When explaining this year's choice of production, Fitzsimmons comments on "Much Ado's..." popularity, adding that it is "...a show that lends itself but doesn't have a lot of physical requirements". A new twist is the change in time period: this production is set post World War II. The particulars of the show require a time period of social conservatism and, for many, the fifties represents just that.

Shakespeare in the Glen provides a great start to the year for both those involved and those in the audience. It's laid-back, fun, free of charge and the only opportunity to see outdoor theater on campus.

So whether you love theater, love Shakespeare or simply want to explore or revisit another Hamilton tradition, grab a lawn chair and come out for "Much Ado About Nothing". Saturday, September 4th and Sunday, September 5th at 4 P.M., behind Minor Theater (Sunday performance rain site: Filius Events Barn).

IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

Although Kenneth Branagh, Emma Thompson, and Keanu Reeves won't be in this production, check out *Much Ado*, Friday and Saturday at 4:00 p.m.

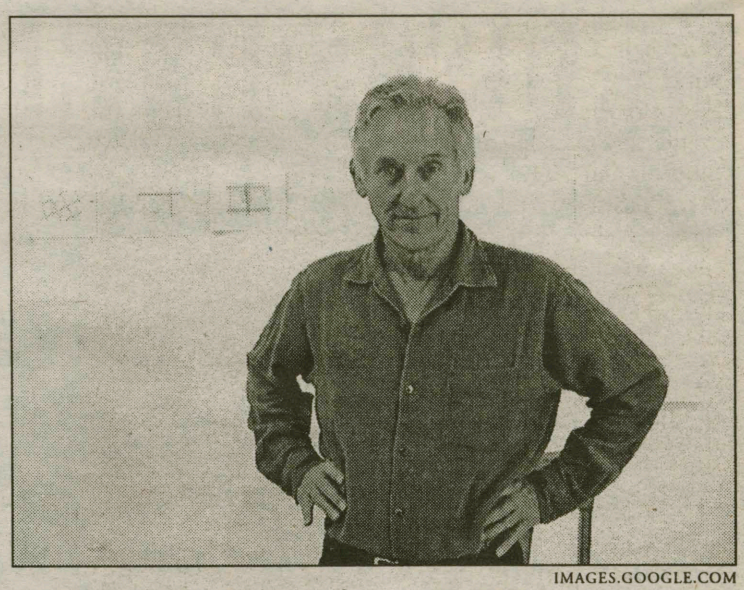
No California dreaming: Ed Ruscha and the American gush

Alex Taylor '07
A&E Writer

Critics have often described painter Ed Ruscha as a 'California' (that is to say minor) artist, hereby placing his work alongside Stevie Nicks and Big Sur in the sunshine pantheon of pretty views and even softer edges. The critics are wrong, and as the current exhibition of Ruscha's drawings at the Whitney (titled "Cotton Puffs, Q-tips, Smoke and Mirrors") confirms, there is nothing light about Ruscha's work. From the early Pop art renderings of words and phrases, to his conceptual trompe l'oeil ribbons, Ruscha's work ought to be considered the successor to Magritte's word and text surrealism, replacing the Frenchman's horses and pipes with images of the American gush.

Ruscha's earliest work, the 1964 drawings "Honk," "Smash" and "Gag" deconstruct the knee-jerk reactions of advertising semiotics: the use of text and color for prod and incentive. Similarly, the late sixties work "Itch" exists within the mismatch between the ugly, feverish implication of that ugly word and the frosted cool detachment of its pictorial rendering. The repeated motifs of Ruscha's early work are the murky places of advertised nowheresville, concrete patios with names like "Bronson Tropics" and "Rustic Pines" and the promised leisure of palm shade and bronze tans, the Elm streets without any actual trees.

The best drawings in the exhibit speak to the almost salacious excess of post- war glut. The 1967 drawing "Promise" features the word itself lit up like a baroque saint, hovering in the center of the picture, plain yet entirely devoid of spiritual heft. This image is prophesizing by way of Cecil B. Demille. And in comparison to the limp sensuality and sexual assurance of David Hockney's swimming pools, Ruscha's "L.A." presents the initials pushed across the turquoise haze, not by some unseen breeze, but by their own torpid inertia.



IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

Although Ed Ruscha may look like Ralph Nader, don't tell him that or he'll paint your mouth shut.

Orchestra to perform more "traditional" music in '05

by Dana Canelli '08
A&E Writer

On August 24th the Hamilton campus bubbled with many excited first-years, anxious to become involved in at least one of the college's music ensembles. Musicians flocked to perform in such highly acclaimed organizations as the College Choir, Chamber Ensembles and the Hamilton Orchestra.

The Hamilton Orchestra, conducted by Heather Buchman, sparked especially heightened interest across campus, drawing a wide variety of instrumentalists. Throughout the week, enthusiastic students could be found fine tuning their skills in every practice room in Schambach as they anxiously awaited the arrival of their audition.

Over the course of auditions, the Orchestra obtained an exceptional number of violinists. This influx of string players was a nice addition to the ensemble. Buchman commented, "The proportions are very different this year," noting that "the orchestra is more complete this year because of the addition of these instruments... Every year more talented musicians join the instrumental ensembles." Buchman is looking forward to the first rehearsal, at which time she will delve into the incredible music that has been chosen for this year's performances.

Last year, the Orchestra performed a great deal of 20th century music, including pieces by Ives, Adams and Shastakovich. This school year the ensemble will be performing more music from the late Romantic period, including Antonin Dvorak's "Symphony #7" and Philip Rothman's "Souvenir." Buchman is stepping back from the "edgy" pieces and moving toward the more traditional ones. She says that she tries to provide, "Interesting and cool, yet challenging music" for the musicians.

The Orchestra will be providing music during Family Weekend along with the College Choir and various acappella groups, and will perform in varied concerts throughout the year.

In addition, Sarah Mastrangelo, a violin instructor at Hamilton, will perform the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto this December; there will be other performances by woodwind trios and string quartets. Hamilton students should consider immersing themselves in the music on campus. There will be spectacular concerts held regularly in Wellin Hall.

The Hamilton College Orchestra is just one of many ensembles that will create powerful, inspiring, beautiful music that enriches the quality of life in the Hamilton community.

Coming September 24th to KJ Auditorium

The world premiere of

Liberal Arts

The first feature-length movie made by Hamilton students on this campus.
http://www.hillsbrook.org

Choir expecting another excellent year

by Sarah Wissel '08
A&E Writer

Choral Director Professor G. Roberts Kolb is confident that the choral ensembles for the 2004-2005 year will be among the best in Hamilton history; they may even be better. The choral department includes three performance ensembles: the Hamilton College Choir, the College Hill Singers, and the Hamilton College and Community Oratorio Society. The Hamilton College Choir is open to all students by audition, with over 65 members. The College Hill Singers is a smaller group consisting of select members of the College Choir. Both have completed their auditions and will begin rehearsal for spring tours and concerts. Despite graduating many members of the second alto section, Professor Kolb anticipates a balanced ensemble. "I'm happy to say that I've heard a number of good new second altos," said Kolb, referring to the auditions of the new students. These new students will be added to the 46 returning vocalists. The members of last year's ensembles exceeded Kolb's expectations and all intend to rejoin the ensemble. "Quality tends to be self-generating," commented Kolb. Not only was the alto section rebuilt, but the general strength and talent of the ensembles is continually growing. "It used to be that if you were a tenor and you could lock a pitch, you were in the choir," Kolb explains. Now, the tenor section is staffed with 15 to 20 experienced musicians. "I really feel like there's no reason this chorus shouldn't be as strong or stronger and any we've had here at Hamilton."

While the College Choir and College Hill Singers have become more selective, the third major ensemble, the Hamilton College and Community Oratorio Society is open to all interested students and community members. The group will begin rehearsing Sunday, Sept. 12 at 7:00 P.M. in Wellin Hall. Professor Kolb recommends the Oratorio Society as an appropriate starting place for interested singers who aspire to join the College Choir or to be part of the musical activities at Hamilton. The repertoire for the upcoming concert season for the Oratorio Society features a "festive Baroque" program including works by Handel, Bach, and Delalande, "probably the most important composer writing for the chapel of Louis XIV," according to Kolb.

The rest of the greater Hamilton community can enjoy choral performances beginning parent weekend in October and continuing throughout the year.

CD Review: Controller Controller

Words of Wisdom From Hamilton's Top "Dance-Punk" Guy

by Danny Klag '06
A&E Writer

As Hamilton College's resident dance-punk enthusiast, I now bring to you a review of History, the debut EP of Controller Controller, the latest in danceable rock that the hipsters will surely tap their toes to. The short story is that this Canadian quintet sounds a hell of a lot like Siouxsie and the Banshees. This group has neatly revamped the (late 70s/early 80s) post-punk sound for 2004, and threw in a disco backbeat. If the Rapture, !!!, Hot Hot Heat, or Franz Ferdinand are looking for an appropriate opening band, they need not look further than Controller.Controller.

History kicks off with a short intro, followed by the title track.Thirty seconds into History, you can tell everything you need to know about this band. The bass lines: Heavy. The beats: Thumping. The guitar riffs: Angular. The influences: Post-punk, 1978-1983.

So you may be asking yourself, "What makes this band stand out from any of the other disco-punk acts of 2003/2004?" Well, the biggest difference is the voice of lead singer Nirmala Basnayake, which sounds quite unlike the shrieks of the Rapture's Luke Jenner, and the cool Ian Curtis-esque vocal stylings of Franz Ferdinand's Alex Kapranos. Basnayake (a name which I won't even try to pronounce) has one of the best female voices that Indie has heard in years. This singer, the only frontwoman in the dance-punk subgenre, is a damn fine vocalist. She sounds like Siouxsie Sioux (the Banshees) or Debbie Harry (Blondie), and delivers like David Byrne (The Talking Heads) or Mark E. Smith (the Fall). Every Le Tigre fan in the house has just found a new voice to reckon with.

As for the band's debut EP, it's pretty solid.Admittedly, every song sounds more or less the same. Not so much in a boring, monotonous way, but rather that this band has clearly found their own stylistic formula, and stuck with it. The disc is a good 25-minute listen, although the fifth track, "Bruised Broken Beaten," is pretty mediocre.But they make up for it (in my book) for referencing the 1984 Rockwell/Michael Jackson hit "Somebody's Watching Me" in their own "Silent Seven." Keep an eye out for this up and coming band. As far as debut EPs go, this isn't bad. Not bad at all.

CD Review of the Week:
Controller Controller

Replayability ::	**8.9**
Innovation ::	**6.8**
Lyrical Content ::	**7.0**
Production ::	**9.0**
Accessibility ::	**8.4**

MUCHMUSIC.COM

Even though they can't figure out where the camera is, Controller Controller can still rock out... in a disco-punk sort of way.

The Chronicles of Zinn

A series of journals of one Hamilton student's semester in New York City

by Zachary Zinn '05
A&E Columnist

EDITOR'S NOTE: *In Spring 2003, Zachary Zinn was required to submit journal entries about his experience on the Hamilton New York City Program for a class. These journals were posted on the college website at http://onthehill.hamilton.edu/news/exp/nyc/zinn.html, but these are the unedited versions which didn't make the cut.*

Week One: The Cow Goes "Moo"

Upon my arrival in the city, I immedietely found a number of my many unfair stereotypes and presumptions about New York to be overwhelmingly true. A token siren blared in the distance, filth and congestion choked the streets, and now having heard firsthand the inhuman moans emanating from the dark, winding subway corriders, I am now convinced more than ever of rumors regarding the cannibalistic humanoid underdwelling demons (or C.H.U.D.'s) of New York.

But as any avid Simpsons fan might note, of course the city will seem bad if you just focus on the CHUD's. Instead, I will discuss my first day as an intern at U-Pick Live. If your're not a regular watcher of the show (and to be honest, I would be concerned if you were), U-Pick Live is a children's show on Nickelodeon that runs from 4 to 6 P.M. on weekdays. There's only about 20 minutes of actual show, however. The program consists of skits and interviews by the show's two hosts between the cartoons (or Nick-toons, as I am contractually obligated to refer to them) that are picked by kids in the studio audience and online.

My day began at 9 A.M., at which point i was promptly put to work shredding 6 crate-fulls of children's letters and pictures to the hosts. I felt a small pang of sorrow as I obliterated these loving requests for autographs and on-air birthday wishes, but any regrets I may have had were quickly dashed away by the first macroni picture that jammed my shredder for an hour. After that point, I gleefully read each message and shredded the most heartfelt ones extra hard. Each shred became like the first bite of a ripe nectarine to me. Stupid kids.

Nickelodeon, I should note here, has roughly the same labor standards as a Cambodian sweatshop. After 3 hours of non-stop paper cuts and shredding, I was given a half hour lunch break that I had to eat in the office within sight of the supervisor to ensure that I wasn't squandering away precious seconds from the evil MTV Networks empire. After lunch, preparation for the show began. I was informed that Paula Abdul would be making an appearance to plug American Idol 3. "That's something," I thought to myself as I merrily went about my shredding. I was then subsquently informed that the woman who reguarly plays "Cow" on the show would not be in today, and that I would need to jump into the cow suit for a scene with "Pick Boy" (a superhero who picks the cartoons) and Paula. At first I thought they were joking, but my nervous laughter quickly trasnformed into abject horror as I was helped in the suit.

I now believe that one cannot properly assess one's life until they are thrust into a cow suit on national TV with Paula Abdul. As I was pondering my sordid existence, the producer gave me instructions on how to perform the wide range of emotions of Cow, from confusion to severe confusion. When showtime came, I nailed my two "lines", by which I mean exaggerated cow shrugs when Pick Boy asks if he can become the next American Idol, and then again while watching Paula walk by. It was a brilliant performance, all being told. Fortunately, the regular Cow actor showed up later, so I was put out to pasture making cue cards and copying scripts for the rest of the night. Not bad for a day's work though, I suppose.

Holy crap! A & E needs writers!

To write for A&E, email wrothe or tmudie@hamilton.edu

BADASS MOVIE REVIEWS: KILL BILL: VOLUMES 1 AND 2

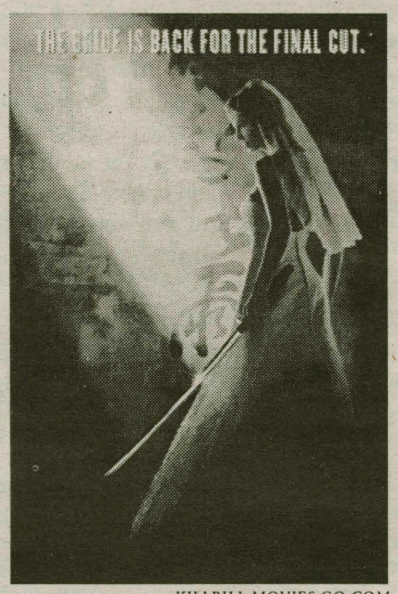
Tim Mudie '05 looks at Quentin Tarantino's latest bonanza of DVD badassity

Some movie company should hire me to write taglines. This was made clear to me after I saw "Kill Bill" and then looked at the posters advertising for it. See, one of the taglines for "Kill Bill" was "A Roaring Rampage of Revenge!" And yes, the movie was roaring, Uma Thurman rampaged all over the place, and the entire thing is based around revenge. But a far sweeter and more accurate tagline would be the one I came up with: "A Bloody Bastion of Badass!" Because that is REALLY what this movie is.

"Kill Bill" was originally supposed to be one movie but the studio decided that it was too long and cut it in half. Consequently, there is a "Kill Bill: Volume One" and a "Kill Bill: Volume Two." However, I have decided to review them together because that is how they are supposed to be watched (and how my friends and I did watch them in fact). So, you ask, what is this "Kill Bill" hoopla all about? Ok, so Uma Thurman is this character known only as "The Bride" and she used to work for this guy Bill (I guess I don't need to tell you that she's trying to kill him). For reasons unknown, Bill and his other employees (all named after venomous snakes) assassinate The Bride, her husband to be and everyone else involved in the wedding. How do they assassinate all these people so efficiently, you ask? Frankly, this aspect bothered me as well, but they ARE professional assassins so maybe that has something to do with it. Hmmm. Regardless, The Bride is not actually killed, but goes into a coma for four years. Upon waking, she is understandably upset with Bill and his assassins and decides to hunt them down and discuss the issues that led to her attempted murder. Wait, did I say "discuss the issues that led to her attempted murder?" My bad. I meant to say "brutally kill them." Whoops!

Now, as I'm sure we all know, hunting down and killing professional assassins is no easy task. So Uma must fight her way through dozens of ninjas (and an artistically disjointed story-line) to exact her revenge. This also is no easy task, but The Bride is up for it and so are the people who make fake blood.

If you don't like blood, do



KILLBILL.MOVIES.GO.COM

Watching both Kill Bill DVDs makes for one badass evening.

NOT see this movie. Seriously. You'll boot all over the place. You'll embarass yourself and all your friends and no one will like you anymore. So don't watch this if you don't like blood. If, however, you like stylized violence and lots of fake blood, watch this movie twice. I have never in my life seen so much fake blood. Honest. I am convinced that this movie single-handedly kept the fake blood business alive last year. Every time anyone gets a leg, or arm or head chopped off (and it happens... a lot) blood goes spurting out for feet in every direction. Being a Creative Writing major, I have no idea if this is biologically accurate or not, but I suspect that it isn't. I also suspect that Quentin Tarantino, director/writer of the movie, doesn't care. Why doesn't he care? Because accurate biology is clearly not as badass as fake biology, and badassity reigns supreme with my boy Q.

The fight scenes also reflect a disdain for reality in order to make things more badass. The ninja moves are very "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon"-like (or so I assume; I've never seen the movie), with people jumping inhumanly badass distances, balancing on swords and doing any number of other impossible, though badass, feats. But it is not just the fighting that is badass. As he has done in the past, Tarantino has managed to make a movie that is at the same time an homage to styles he loves, full of action and yet also full of story and character. I seriously think that David Carradine should be considered for an Oscar for his performance as Bill. And not only are he and The Bride developed fully, but Lucy Liu's character O-Ren Ishii has an entire "chapter" of the movie devoted to her early life. Not only does it show how she developed from a normal girl into the head of the Japanese underground, but it shows it entirely in anime, which is a great touch that you probably won't appreciate until you actually see the film. Oh, and just in case you need one more badass reason to see this movie here it is: Original Music written by The RZA. That's right. How much more badass can you get? So remember: Wu-Tang Clan ain't nothing to bleep with and neither is "Kill Bill." This has been Badass Movie Reviews. Next Week: "Calendar Girls."

The Samuel Kirkland Film Society Presents

IMAGES.GOOGLE.COM

Starsky and Hutch (2004. PG-13, 101 Mins.)

Cast: Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Vince Vaughn, Fred Williamson, Amy Smart, Carmen Electra and Chris Penn.

Synopsis: David Starsky (Stiller) and Ken Hutchinson (Wilson) take on coke kingpin Reese Feldman (Vaughn) while fraternizing with the cheeba-smoking, iguana-loving police snitch Huggy Bear, played by Compton's own Snoop Doggy Dog. Hilarity ensues. The update of the 1975 television series finds the duo kicking ass in the same red and white Ford Torino that made them famous back when [illegible] and platform shoes were all the [illegible]

Playing: In the KJ Auditorium, Friday—7:00 pm, 10:00 pm; Saturday—9:30 pm, Midnight; Sunday—7:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

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Science & Technology

Want to be 'Geek of the Week'?

by Jon Rees '06
SCIENCE EDITOR

Do you think you have it takes to be 'Geek of the Week' and therefore earn Hamilton's most prestigious academic honor? Here at the Spectator we are seeking bright individuals who rock the academic playing field harder than AC/DC. If you qualify, you'll not only be respected and treated like royalty, but you'll also get your picture in the paper for everyone's viewing pleasure, accompanied by a detailed interview!

Now you may be wondering, "How might I gain this honor?" Consider the following questions: Do you have a favorite family or group of elements? Do you play hard on the weekends, but still regulate during the week in the classroom? Are you a scholar athlete? Is your GPA higher than you are right now? Do you find intellect attractive? Do you seek attention? Have you ever considered using pheromones to attract the ladies? Are you wearing homemade pants? If you have any friends who could answer, "yes", to any or all of the above, then you may nominate them to be "Geek of the Week".

Simply email *jrees* and *klexa* with candidate recommendations, justifications, relation to you, and pictures (picture not required, keep it clean people). The spectator staff will then pick the most worthy candidates and interview them. Remember; don't be shy about recommending either friends or professors!

Common College Illnesses

by Lou Vaickus '05
SCIENCE WRITER

College provides contact with a host of new and exciting experiences. Whether these enlightening occasions are academic, social, sexual, drug-related or all of the above depends on the student. What these situations have in common is the propensity to leave the body vulnerable to a host of bacterial, viral and mental illnesses as a result of stress, close contact or the exchange of bodily fluids and particulates (once again, depending on the person).

Thus it is advantageous to be familiar with the symptoms and treatments of the six most common collegiate physical and mental illnesses. This motley crew includes: the common cold, influenza, strep throat, mono, anxiety and depression.

The common cold, most often results from infection by a rhinovirus (nose-virus). The symptoms of this affliction are among the most recognized in all of human health. They include runny nose, cough, body aches and sneezing. Severe colds or further stress can quickly lead to more serious respiratory infections such as pneumonia and bronchitis. Transmission can be airborne or the result of direct contact with contaminated surfaces or organisms. Because the culprit is a virus, and a highly adaptable one at that, treatment is limited to healthy diet, rest and the passage of time. Antibiotics are ineffective.

Influenza is perhaps the second most common collegiate illness. Symptoms include aches, fever, weakness, sore throat, headache and coughing. The flu is caused by a strain of highly contagious viruses which mutate regularly. Transmission results from inhalation of airborne particles or through direct contact. Influenza can be prevented by vaccination. However, vaccines are only produced for the strains that are anticipated to be the most prevalent each season. Thus infection by other strains is still possible. Barring vaccination, the only treatment is proper diet and rest.

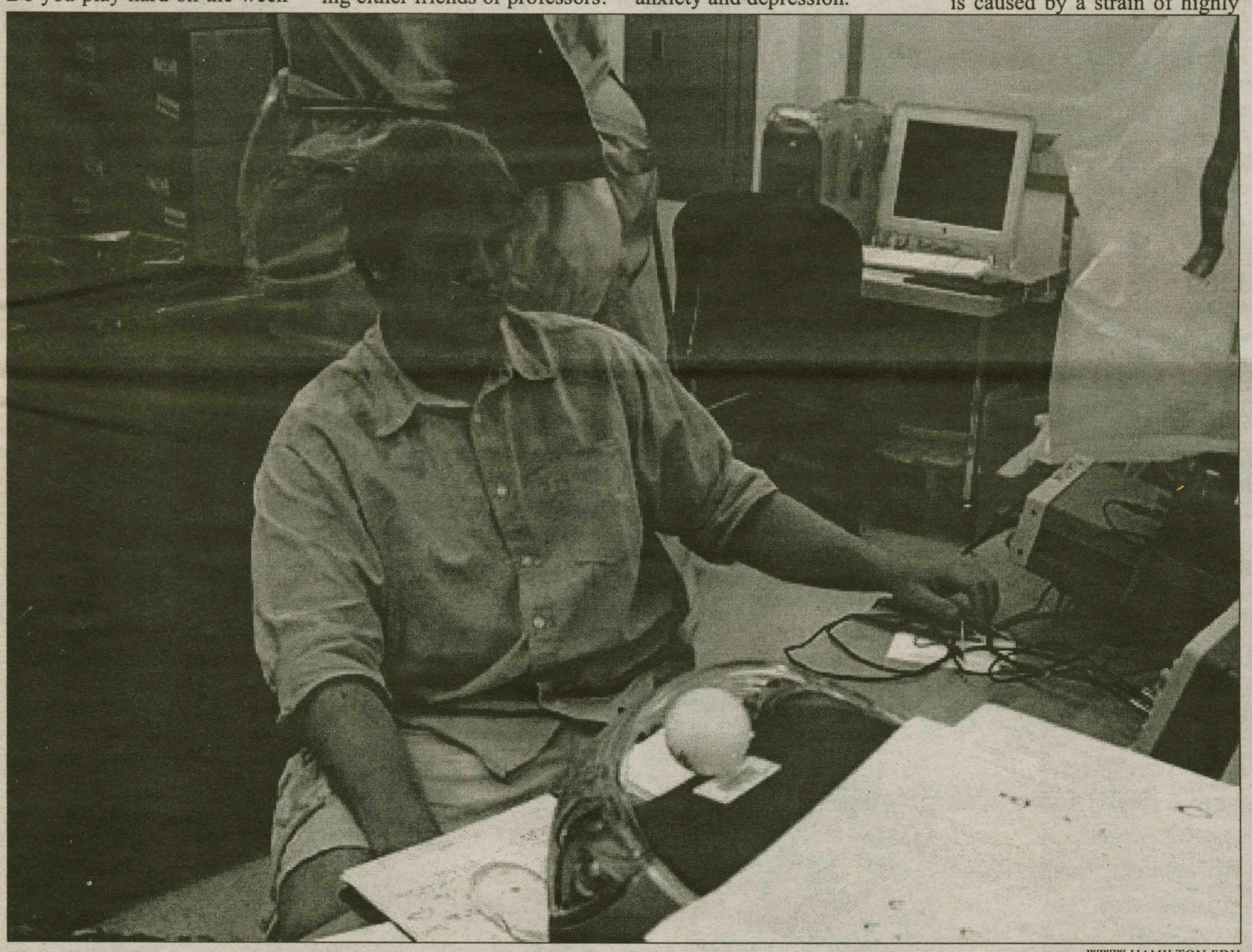
Strep throat is another extremely common disease both inside and outside of universities. This illness is caused by the highly virulent bacteria streptococcus. Symptoms include sore throat, fever and swollen lymph nodes in the neck. The main mode of transmission is through contact with the respiratory fluids of an infected individual (by whatever means you choose) but animals can also carry the illness. Step throat is best treated with antibiotics such as penicillin and erythromycin in addition to proper diet and rest.

Mononucleosis is common in individuals of reproductive age due to its primary mode of transmission, the exchange of bodily fluids. Few non life-threatening illnesses come with the same set of social implications or cause as much embarrassment (or pride) - again depending on the person. Mono is the result of a viral infection. Symptoms include, fever, fatigue, tonsillitis and swollen lymph nodes in the neck. Transmission usually involves the exchange of saliva or various types of bodily mucous, hence the nickname kissing disease. Antibiotics are ineffective against mononucleosis and at present there is no vaccine. The best treatment is proper diet and rest.

Anxiety is caused by high stress situations and can come in conjunction with depression. Symptoms include: muscle tightness, excessive worrying, trouble concentrating and mild to severe insomnia. High workloads and multi-tasking can lead to this mental ailment. Recurrence of symptoms can even occur as a result of exposure to stimuli, especially sights and smells, which are associated with past anxiety. This type of relapse is often manifested in a panic attack. The most effective treatment is relaxation, exercise and a proper diet, although abstaining from caffeine and other stimulants is also helpful.

Depression is common among college students as well as the general population and can be initiated by stressful situations. Symptoms of depression include general sadness, fits of unprovoked crying, difficulty concentrating and withdrawal from social situations. Brief, periodic cases of depression are normal and usually subside in

see *Illnesses*, page 18



Pete intensely computing oscillations. Sorry gentlemen, he's straight.

WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

Geek of the Week

by Katrina Lexa '05
SCIENCE EDITOR
and Josh Huling '05
SCIENCE WRITER

Name: Peter Coxeter
Year: 2005
Major: Physics, with a minor in Global Studies (and Math too)!
Extracurriculars: Crew, IM Basketball, Snoccer, Mock Trial, and Computer Gaming Club
Hobbies: Avid anime connaisseur.
Aspirations Post-Hamilton? To become a patent attorney.
Favorite Force? Dark Energy, which is causing our universe to fly apart.
Least Favorite Force? Centrifugal force, because it doesn't exist.
Newton or Galileo? Newton. Galileo was a hack, Newton invented calculus and he liked apples.
Ever experienced weightlessness? Yeah, weightlessness is just freefalling...
Potential or Kinetic? Potential, you can do a hell of a lot with potential.
Most creative science pickup line? I want to add you, subtract your clothes, divide your legs, and multiply.
Did you do summer research? I watched a ping pong ball bounce.
What is the title of your thesis? "Insights into the Behavior of an Impact Oscillator."
Red Sox or Yankees? Yankees.
Favorite part of lab? The end. What is fantastic is when you look up and its 2 or 3 hours later.
Do you have any strategies for success? The right mix of work and play ... hitting shortbread with a bat. It's the simple things in life.
Favorite color? On a car - black. In general - aquamarine.
Favorite element? Titanium, it's just so cool.
Why Physics? I love technology and I've always loved physics.
Favorite Sci-Fi book? *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.*
Favorite Sci-fi TV show? Babylon 5.
Favorite TV show? Family Guy.
Favorite Movie? *Kill Bill Vol. I.* While the storyline is good, seeing 89 people getting chopped up is pretty cool.
Favorite place on campus to hookup? The garden by the glen.
Favorite beverage? Guinness or Diet Lemon Arizona Tea.
Lightsider or Darksider? Darksider.
McEwen or Commons? Commons.

Nothing Silly About This

by Dan Seeger '06
SCIENCE WRITER

It seems like only yesterday when I would anxiously seize the morning comics from the otherwise ominous stack of newspapers on my kitchen table. The black and white storylines were always a pleasant start to a Sunday full of soccer games and relaxation. But when I think back to those days, I remember the forgotten teammate of the Sunday strips that always added an additional amount of delight. Layering the surface of the comics with a colorful substance produced a stretchable, mirror image of the hilarious content.

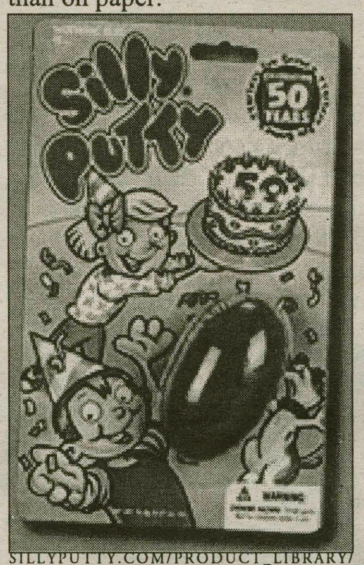
This goody bag hall-of-famer is in fact the best thing to come from an egg since the chicken itself. For the last fifty years Silly Putty has surpassed the expectations of both children and scientists alike.

The putty was invented by accident in the 1940's when James Wright combined boric acid and silicone oil. The silicone polymer product had a number of exciting physical properties that are quite astonishing.

An attempt to squash the putty with a hammer will be futile; however, it is easily molded by a gentle grip. If it is rolled up into a sphere and set on a table overnight the next morning the putty will be in the shape of a flattened egg. An attempt to rip Silly Putty apart quickly and forcefully will cleanly tear it, but if you slowly pull the clump in half it will stretch farther than human appendages will permit. The experiments are perpetual.

Though it may appear as if Silly Putty rivals the new 'Ice Breakers Liquid Ice', Ashley and Jessica Simpson can stop worrying right now. Silly Putty is an example of a dilatant compound. This is a "property of certain materials to be liquid or semi-liquid when standing but to solidify quickly" (encyclopedia.thefreedictionary.com) when pressure is put upon it. Silly Putty is able to act to strong, fast pressures differently than it does to weak, steady pressures. Hence the toy is immune to the blows of a hammer yet sensitive to the touch of a hand.

The infamous substance has found fame all over the world, and even beyond. The astronauts of Apollo 8 brought an egg full of Silly Putty on their mission to hold down tools while in zero gravity. It is also used by many athletes and guitar players to strengthen their grip. Whether you use it to practice your karate chops or to collect dust in your room, I always found that the inverse depictions of my Sunday comics were a little funnier on the back of a malleable ball rather than on paper.



SILLYPUTTY.COM/PRODUCT_LIBRARY/PROD_LIBRARY.HTM

Typical Hazards of College Life

from Illnesses, page 17

less than a week. Prolonged cases (those lasting more than 2 weeks) and those followed by periods of extreme elation (mania) may be indicative of underlying mental problems or hormone imbalances. Brief instances of depression are best treated through participation in enjoyable activities, exercise, proper diet and limiting the intake of depressants (alcohol being the undisputed king). Severe cases of depression often require corrective medication and professional help. Medical consultation is recommended for any case of depression lasting longer than three weeks and resistant to the above treatment.

Whatever common, college ailment afflicts you or your friends this semester, remember that most can be prevented and/or shortened by proper diet, adequate sleep, exercise and limited exposure to immuno-suppressants such as stress and alcohol.

(Synopses courtesy of www.webmd.com.)

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Beat the Experts

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics. Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well. If any game ends in a tie, it is not counted.

	Andrew DeCastro *Spectator* *Sports Editor*	Mike Osborne *Spectator* *Sports Editor*	Michael Proia *Spectator* *Senior Editor*	Kat McGrory *Spectator* *Editor-in-Chief*	John Allen *Senior* *Guest #1*
Season Record:	**0-0**	**0-0**	**0-0**	**0-0**	**0-0**
College Football					
Miami (OH) @ Michigan 9/4	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan
Bowling Green @ Oklahoma 9/4	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
Cincinati @ Ohio State 9/4	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State
Wake Forest @ Clemson 9/4	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson
Oklahoma State @ UCLA 9/4	O.K. State	UCLA	O.K. State	UCLA	UCLA
World Cup of Hockey					
USA vs. Slovakia 9/3	USA	USA	USA	USA	USA
Sweden vs. Finland 9/4	Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	Sweden
Canada vs. Russia 9/4	Russia	Canada	Canada	Canada	Canada
MLB					
Texas @ Boston 9/4	Sox	Sox	Rangers	Sox	Sox
Baltimore @ NY Yankees 9/4	Yanks	Yanks	Orioles	Orioles	Yanks

If you think that you can beat these "experts," drop us a line and we will try to get you into the section. Write "I can beat the experts" on a sheet of paper with your name, then fold it and address it to the sports editors at *The Spectator*. Drop it in campus mail and if you're selected randomly, you'll quickly receive a form for you to make your picks.

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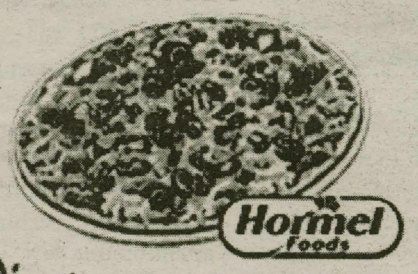

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	Small	Large
Cheese	6.00	8.95
1 Item	6.75	9.95
2 Items	7.50	10.95
3 Items	7.75	11.95
4 Items	8.50	12.95

Small = 8 pieces Large = 16 pieces

Items
Broccoli, Eggplant, Sausage, Mushrooms, Pepperoni, Peppers, Onions, Meatballs, Spinach, Anchovies, Double Cheese, Black Olives

Garlic Slices.....1.16 each + tax
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Spectator Sports

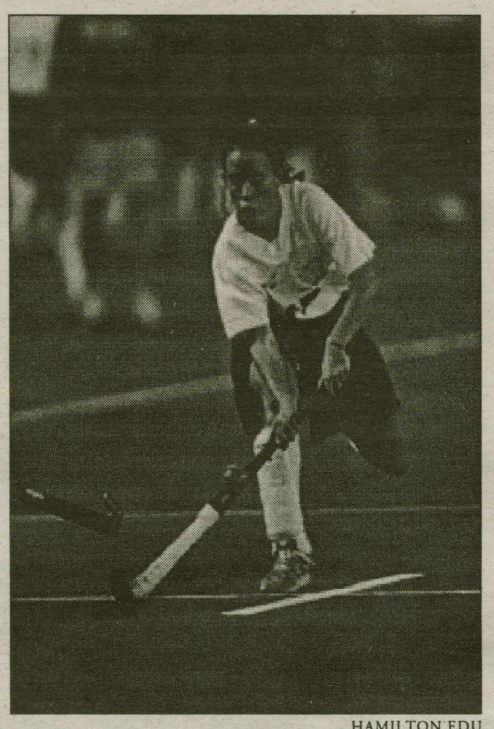
May 7, 2004

Field hockey has high expectations

by Matt Bradley '07
SPORTS WRITER

The Hamilton College Varsity Field Hockey team is preparing for yet another season with the help of Head Coach Tracy Kelleher. Returning for her third season with the Continentals, Kelleher is confident that the team has what it takes to excel into the post-season. Kelleher, who was an assistant coach at Colgate before coming to Hamilton, will use her knowledge of Division I field hockey to help the squad flourish. "Coach [Kelleher] has helped our team develop so much," comments Katie Stinchfield '07. "She knows a lot about the sport and it definitely shows."

Tri-captains Elizabeth Conway '05, Ann Hapanowicz '05 and Katelyn McGee '06 will be leading by example on the field. Hapanowicz has been a defensive force in past years while Conway and McGee will lead the offensive attack as midfielders. In addition to the captains, the squad will receive an immeasurable amount of support from the younger returning players. Polly Noble '05, the probable goal-tender, and defender JoJo McCann '05 are two veteran players who are expected to contribute enormously this season. Additionally, sophomores Lauren Hayden and Katie Stinchfield will add great dynamic to the offense. Hayden, in fact, is the leading scorer of all the returning players. Coaches and teammates are expecting her to put up big numbers this season.



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Junior Katelyn McGee will be the backbone for the Conts this year.

Several key players will not be returning this season for different reasons. With a small freshman recruiting class, the team will be smaller than last year. Some suggest the smaller numbers, however, could work to the team's advantage. "I think after losing a few girls, we realize how important our teammates are," says Stinchfield. "They're the reason why you go out and play every day."

"We have a pretty small team," says Hayden regarding the numbers, "but I think it will really help us come together as a team." Good team chemistry will be extremely important this season if the squad wants to earn a post-season position. The Continentals will have to win some very crucial games to make the tournament. Last year, the team had a couple heart-breaking overtime losses which could have gone both ways. One of the most memorable was the double-overtime loss against Rochester. The girls will work to avenge last year's losses, especially in their league games."

Hamilton competes in the Liberty League, which was formally the Upstate Collegiate Athletic Association. Schools like Rochester, Union, and William Smith will be competing against Hamilton in the Liberty League match-ups. The Continentals must win a good amount of these conference games if they hope to earn a playoff bid. However, this will be no easy task. The Liberty League is one of the most competitive Division III field hockey conferences in the country. Skidmore College has an extremely successful program that earned the team quarterfinal tournament bids each of the last two years. Additionally, William Smith always has a competitive program. Its team won the division III national championship in 2001 and is always in the running for the playoffs.

The Hamilton College field hockey team will definitely be prepared for the difficult task which lies ahead. Since returning to school, the girls have been enduring double sessions in preparation for the season. The Conts will not have the luxury of opening the season at home. In fact, the team will be on the road for its first three games, the first of which is on September 8 against Utica College. The Continentals will then have to face SUNY Oswego and Cortland on September 15 and 18 respectively before playing their home opener against Hartwick on September 21. "Everyone has been working extremely hard," commented Hayden. "We're in great shape and really optimistic about this season."

What was missing at the Olympics in Athens?

by Michael Proia '05
SENIOR EDITOR

Once upon a time, the Olympics symbolized the collection of the greatest athletes in the world, competing with sportsmanship, integrity and pride. If you've been paying attention to the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens, Greece, you probably noticed a few things missing. I'm not discussing the lack of crowds, leaving stadiums more than 95 percent empty for some events; I mean the sportsmanship. The U.S. men's basketball team has taken a lot of heat, and I'll get to that later, but let's start with the events of the Judo competition.

Iranian Judo competitor Arash Miresmaeili refused to spare with his scheduled opponent Ehud Vaks. Why? Because Vaks fought under the banner of Israel, and the Iranian government urged all athletes not to compete against Israelis because "Israel is no country," according to Miresmaeili's teammate Haji Akhondzade. The Jewish wrestler won the match in a forfeit and handled the incident with the highest class, but the event put a permanent black mark on the Iranian government, which seemed to ignore the concept of the Olympics brining nations together.

Although this despicable episode did not draw a lot of attention from the American media (imagine if a white US wrestler refused to wrestle an African because of his black skin), it was the most significant display of a lack of integrity as any in Athens. But there are more, many more.

The results of both the men's and women's individual gymnastics gold medals are in dispute. South Korea's Yang Taeyoung believes he deserved the gold but lost due to a mathematical error, and wants the IOC and court of appeals to review the videotape of his routine. Since there is no video review in gymnastics, he will have to take his case to a higher authority. But if he really wants replay to be used, wouldn't the judges have to review routine, surely finding previously uncounted mistakes by Yang? And why did it take so long for the South Korean's to protest the judging error?

A few nights later, another judging error in the men's gymnastics competition caused the crowd to stand and boo for more than 10 minutes, delaying the performances. The judges eventually fixed the mistake, but the crowd continued to show their displeasure with the scoring. The human element of the judging is what makes gymnastics such a crowd favorite. The fans should recognize going into the building that there may be scores they do not like, but it's part of the sport, and they should learn to accept the decisions made by the judges.

The US men's basketball team may not be protesting any results or refusing to play games after their disspointing bronze medal performance, but Richard Jefferson's antics in a 20-point loss to Puerto Rico certainly added to the embarrassment that the U.S. Basketball selection committee must feel. Jefferson made a dunk late in the fourth quarter, in a game that had been decided for some time, and began pounding his chest and screaming as he ran back down the floor. Puerto Rico's response was to celebrate its win by charging the floor and defiantly tugging at their country's name on the front of their jerseys. Jefferson and Puerto Rican guard Carlos Arroyo nearly came to blows in the final minute of play. Way to make us proud, Richard.

I'm not mad that the hoops team lost; in fact I expected it for some time. Ten years ago we decided to export basketball to the rest of the world, and we can't be surprised that they have caught up. The US soccer team has made similar strides in recent years, and many international soccer fans celebrate that. The embarrassing part for this year's hoops team was that they seemed to expect to win, and when the other countries rebelliously beat them, they couldn't handle it. Richard Jefferson had to hoot and holler to make himself seen.

This is not to say that there was no sportsmanship or good stories. People all over the world who care nothing about soccer supportively cheered the Iraqi team, which finished an inspiring fourth overall. Iraq, which had only competed in 1988 as a soccer team in the Olympics, did their nation proud, and the world stood and cheered them on.

In the swimming pool, record-setter Michael Phelps did Americans proud by giving up his spot on the 4x100 individual medley even though he could have guaranteed himself a U.S. swimming record eighth medal. Phelps' teammate Ian Crocker, who had cost Phelps a gold in an earlier relay race with a poor performance, took Phelps' spot and helped the team win the gold in a world record setting performance. Phelps did get a gold medal because he was part of the qualifying team, but more importantly he showed respect and trust in his teammates. He gave up a shot at Olympic history because he felt he had won enough, and Crocker deserved a chance to get his first and only gold medal.

After watching endless hours of the Olympics over the last three weeks, I cannot say I am proud to be a sports fan, in America or anywhere. I was not inspired but heroic performances of any athletes or teams. Rather, I wondered why the line between amateur and professional athletes is becoming more and more blurred. I wondered why anyone would pay to watch people put themselves before the integrity of their sports and nations. All I can say is, I'm glad its over, and the Fall Classic and NFL opening day are right around the corner.

Hamilton Previews Next Week in Sports...

Men's Soccer

Women's Soccer

Volleyball

Women's Tennis